

FEBRUARY 5 - 11, 2015



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## Budget decisions

Deciding where to put limited government dollars has always been a challenge, but as budgets have gotten tighter and taxpayers tapped out, elected officials are trying to figure out where to draw the line on spending and investments.

In Manchester, Mayor Ted Gatsas wants to borrow \$3.3 million to change over 9,000 of the city lights to LED and \$1.2 million to monitor them. To do this he's proposed (though it has been rejected by the board) to borrow the money. The savings from the lower-energy-use LEDs more than pays the interest and principal on the borrowed money, saving the city \$265,000 a year beyond the costs associated with the lights.

Seems like a slam dunk, but members of the Board of Aldermen have balked. The reason? They aren't sold that the \$1.2 million for monitoring of the lights will produce any additional savings. It could, they argue, but it isn't a sure thing. So if it's not a sure thing, then why not look at other investments, suggests Alderman At Large Joe Levasseur. His idea: buy more technology in the schools.

Levasseur has a point. Investing in our kids will also benefit the community, property values and local business. But there are only so many investments a government can make. It has (as we all do) limited resources. So how do we decide where that line is?

This makes it incredibly important that any form of government be as wise with a nickel as possible. Every dollar spent on one thing is a dollar that can't be spent on another.

## A conservative says yes to rail

Executive Councilor David Wheeler (R-Milford) represents Nashua and most of the western part of the state around Peterborough and Keene. He has been against any publicly financed rail options into New Hampshire but has changed his mind and now supports rail into Nashua. Rail is one of those investments that divides a lot of people. Many argue that the public shouldn't have to subsidize it, that the users should pay the full fare. Though understandable, that view does not include the broad benefit that rail provides, from a better economy to a better environment. Even if we strip away the economic and environmental arguments, rail makes sense, as much sense as funding highways. One issue that opponents are right on, though, is cost. Well-intended regulations have clogged the infrastructure process and added additional costs to building.

The solution isn't to stop fixing roads or building rail lines; it's to clamp down on costs. I think most of us can agree that we want government to provide a certain set of infrastructure and services — we just want to get the best deal we can possibly get. ☘



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## ON THE COVER

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## ALSO ON THE COVER

**Voting for the Hippo's annual Best of readers' poll is underway.** Check out the details on page 31. Also, get your Valentine's Day reservations now — find your perfect romantic restaurant starting on page 36.



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Great Book Discussion- "Snow Falling on Cedars"	Elective	P. Galamaga	1/2	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 7	7-8pm	\$100
US History	Academic	D. Pare	1	Tuesday	Feb.10-June 2	3-5pm	\$160
SAT-English	Elective	P. Galamaga	1/4	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 7	4-6pm	\$75
GED/HiSet-Language	N/A	M. Theriault	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.10-June 2	6-8pm	\$30
Creative Cuisine for Beginners	Elective	E. Greenland	1/2	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 21	6-8pm	\$100+\$25
Chemistry	Academic	L. Hamel	1	Tuesday	Feb.10-June 2	6-8pm	\$175
Physical Science(MythBusters)	Academic	C. Lauzon	1/2	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 21	3-5pm	\$100
SAT-Math	Elective	K. Sargent	1/4	Thursday	Feb.12-April 9	6-8pm	\$75
Algebra	Academic	K. Sargent	1	Thursday	Feb.12-June 4	3-5pm	\$160
Geometry	Academic	D. Kallager	1	Thursday	Feb.12-June 4	3-5pm	\$160
Biology	Academic	K. Greb	1	Thursday	Feb.12-June 4	6-8pm	\$175
English	Academic	P. Galamaga	1	Thursday	Feb.12-June 4	3-5pm	\$160
GED/HiSet-Math	N/A	B. Carey	N/A	Thursday	Feb.12-June 4	6-8pm	\$30
Backyard Birding	Elective	N. Lambert	1/2	Thursday	March19-May28	5-7pm	\$100
Digital Photoshop	Elective	R. Caradonna	1/2	Thursday	Feb.12-April 23	3:45-5:45pm	\$100
Creative Welding	Elective	R. Caradonna	1/2	Thursday	Feb.12-April 23	6-8pm	\$100+\$50
<b>Enrichment</b>				<b>Open to 16+</b>			
Music-Private Lessons	Music		N/A	Check Web	By appoint.	By appoint.	\$30/hour
Career Exploration	Enrichment	J. Lewis	N/A	By appoint.	By appoint.	By appoint.	Free
Emergency Prepare-CERT Training	Enrichment	S. Jutras	N/A	Tues & Thurs	Feb.10-March 19	6-8pm	Free
Creative Cuisine for Beginners	Enrichment	E. Greenland	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 21	6-8pm	\$75+\$25
Great Book Discussion- "Snow Falling on Cedars" - on GTV (channel 16)	Enrichment	P. Galamaga	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 7	7-8pm	Free
Computer Basics	Enrichment	M. Engelsen	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.10-March 24	6-8pm	\$85
Intro to Robotics	Enrichment	M. Przekaza	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 21	6-8pm	\$85
What to do When I'm 65	Enrichment	R. Cathcart	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.10-April 21	6:30-8pm	\$85
Nutrition/Wellness	Enrichment	L. Federico	N/A	Tuesday	April 7, 14, 21	6-7pm	\$75
Yoga	Enrichment	L. Federico	N/A	Thursday	Feb.12-April 23	3-4:15pm	\$85
Hip-Hop Dance	Enrichment	C. Lauzon	N/A	Thursday	Feb.12-April 23	6-7:15pm	\$85
Digital Photoshop	Enrichment	R. Caradonna	N/A	Thursday	Feb.12-April 23	3:45-5:45pm	\$85
Creative Welding	Enrichment	R. Caradonna	N/A	Thursday	Feb.12-April 23	6-8pm	\$85+\$50

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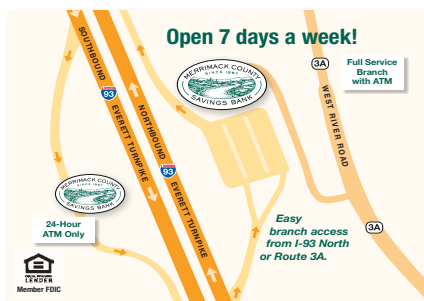
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## Concealed weapons?

Senate Majority Leader Jeb Bradley, R-Wolfeboro is the prime sponsor of a bill that would allow people to carry concealed weapons without a permit. Those in favor of the bill say it's a modest change, which would allow people who can already carry a weapon openly to carry it concealed, WMUR reported.

There was a hearing on Jan. 29, at which Susan Olsen of the Women's Defense League of New Hampshire, argued that women with weapons are better protected against attackers. Those in favor of the bill looked next door to Vermont, a state where a similar law is in place.

Opponents of the bill say it makes an already lax law even more lax. Law enforcement also spoke against the bill. Tuftonboro Police Chief Andrew Shagoury said it would allow teens to carry concealed weapons and the Association of Chiefs of Police said it's a public safety issue.

According to WMUR, if it becomes law, the state could lose out on \$900,000 in revenue from permits.

If the bill makes it through the Republican-controlled House and Senate, it is unclear if Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan would sign it.

## Romney not running

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney announced on Jan. 30 he would not run for the GOP presidential nomination for a third time, CNN reported. On a call the morning of Jan. 30, Romney told supporters he didn't think he would give the Republicans the best chance in the general election, which was the driving force behind his decision. According to CNN Romney said he would do what he could to prop up the GOP nominee and said he wasn't hiring a campaign staff, though he is sure he could carry the nomination.

### Correction

In the Jan. 29 "Souped Up" cover story, the Bridge's Cafe's beef and barley soup was noted as gluten-free, when in fact, barley itself contains gluten. If you want to make it gluten-free, multiple online recipes suggest using quinoa instead of barley.

## Governor terms

Only New Hampshire and Vermont have two-year terms for governors, a constitutional amendment Mario Ratzki, D-East Andover is seeking to change with his bill to extend the term to four years, NHPR reported. Ratzki told NHPR a four-year term would enable a governor to set long-term goals, a benefit not currently afforded to a two-year term governor.

He pointed to agency heads receiving lengthy terms — four to six years — yet only giving the governor two years to work over them. He told NHPR a number of challenges, including things such as healthcare and energy policy, take more than two years to tackle. Even if the bill makes it through, as a constitutional amendment, it would need  $\frac{2}{3}$  voter approval to become law, but Ratki told NHPR it has good chance, pointing to 1984, when 64 percent of voters were in favor of the same amendment.

## Voter registration

There is opposition to the bill put forth regarding what is considered one's residence for voting purposes. House Deputy Speaker Gene Chandler, R-Bartlett proposed the bill, which supplants a previous one that would have required people registered to vote in the Granite State to also register their vehicles in New Hampshire, WMUR reported. State Rep. Wayne Burton, D-Durham voiced his opposition to the bill, claiming it targets young voters.

"These continued Republican attempts to discourage student voting should be of concern to every citizen. With this proposal to tie the right to vote to the privilege of holding a New Hampshire driver's license, Republicans have shown once again that they are more concerned with shutting certain people out of the process than with preserving the integrity of our election laws," Burton said in a press release. "This is just the latest attempt to advance



Courtesy photo.

Bill O'Brien's agenda to keep young people, who he believes are 'foolish,' from exercising their right to vote."

## Meat House money

Co-owner of the Meat House Justin Rosberg pleaded guilty on Jan. 29 in Seabrook Circuit Court to one count of misapplication of property, seacoastonline reported. The plea has Rosberg admitting he failed to pay funds from a charitable event to benefit veterans. The money was raised for the Chaplain Emergency Relief Fund via an Operation Thank You event in July 2013 at the Redhook Ale Brewery.

Rosberg received a one-year county jail sentence, all of which is suspended for two years, with the stipulation he pay restitution to the tune of \$13,882 to the fund, seacoastonline reported. Jason Parent, 42, of York, Maine, co-owner of the Meat House, was indicted on similar charges in January, concerning the same money.

## EBT restrictions

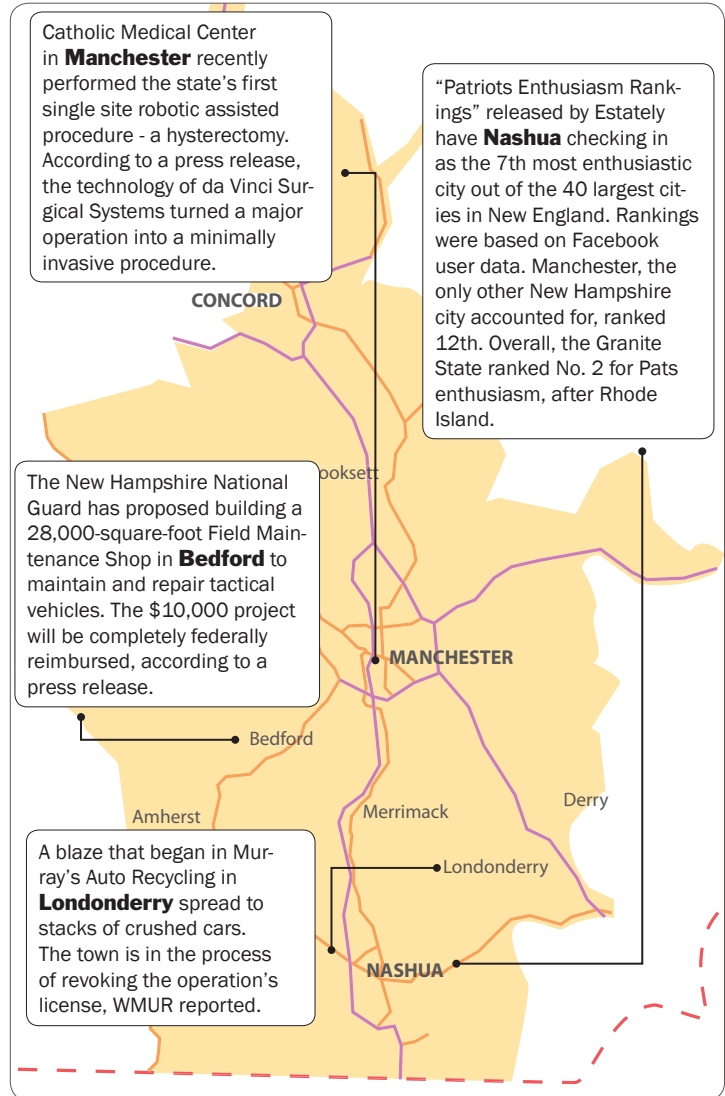
On Jan. 28 the House heard testimony on whether to bar the use of EBT cash at tattoo parlors and medical marijuana dispensaries. In addition to barring the use at these establishments, the bill extends to smoke shops, NHPR reported. The bill's sponsor,

Catholic Medical Center in **Manchester** recently performed the state's first single site robotic assisted procedure - a hysterectomy. According to a press release, the technology of da Vinci Surgical Systems turned a major operation into a minimally invasive procedure.

"Patriots Enthusiasm Rankings" released by Estatly have **Nashua** checking in as the 7th most enthusiastic city out of the 40 largest cities in New England. Rankings were based on Facebook user data. Manchester, the only other New Hampshire city accounted for, ranked 12th. Overall, the Granite State ranked No. 2 for Pats enthusiasm, after Rhode Island.

The New Hampshire National Guard has proposed building a 28,000-square-foot Field Maintenance Shop in **Bedford** to maintain and repair tactical vehicles. The \$10,000 project will be completely federally reimbursed, according to a press release.

A blaze that began in Murray's Auto Recycling in **Londonderry** spread to stacks of crushed cars. The town is in the process of revoking the operation's license, WMUR reported.



Charles McMahon, R-Windham, said the bill wouldn't prevent people with a medical marijuana prescription from using it. There was no opposition to the bill at the hearing.

## Gappens arrested

Jerry Gappens, the executive vice president and general manager of the New Hampshire Motor Speedway, was arrested

in the Queen City on Jan. 21 and charged with lewdness, according to a press release. Gappens, 53, of Bedford was allegedly engaged in lewd behavior with Kendra Johnson, 19, of Manchester in a vehicle he was operating. Manchester police observed a woman enter a Toyota Sequoia, then followed the vehicle and observed the alleged behavior, according to a press release. 🚗

## BEST WEEK

### PATS FANS

Well, they did it. Tom Brady, Bill Belichick and company brought home their fourth Super Bowl of the century, defeating the Seattle Seahawks 28-24 in Glendale, Arizona, at the University of Phoenix Stadium on Feb. 1. Malcolm Butler sealed the deal with under a minute to go, intercepting Seahawks' quarterback Russell Wilson at the goalline. En route to the victory Brady tossed four touchdowns, surpassing his idol, former San Francisco great Joe Montana, on the all-time list for touchdowns thrown in Super Bowl games. Brady also captured the Super Bowl MVP.

## WORST WEEK

### WINTER HATERS

Punxsawtawney Phil emerged from his hole at Gobbler's Knob in Pennsylvania on Feb. 2 and saw his shadow, KRISTV reported. This means six more weeks of winter, and for those who had enough snow after the three storms in the past week and a half, this is bad news. For those who love to frolic in the cold and snow, maybe the news isn't so bad.



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# RGGI repeal?

Republicans and Democrats divided on energy issue

By Josh Rosenson  
jrosenson@hippopress.com

The Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, adopted in 2008 as bipartisan legislation, has become a partisan issue recently as Republicans try to repeal the law that's meant to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

## What RGGI proponents say

The regional market-based program (RGGI, usually pronounced "Reggie") assigns a certain number of carbon dioxide allowances to each state that participates, which they can trade, sell or use. For example, Public Service of New Hampshire can cut emissions by lowering carbon emissions, reducing energy generation or purchasing credits from any emitter in the initiative. In 2014, all states had a cap of 91 million short tons, said State Rep. Suzanne Harvey, D-Nashua, a bill co-sponsor in 2008. The cap then declines by 2.5 percent each year from 2015 to 2020, according to rggi.org.

Harvey is fighting the repeal.

"We, the sponsors [in 2008] had many, many stakeholder meetings. We called in all the experts we could gather around the state and listened to the experts about joining RGGI," Harvey said.

Periodic auctions are held to buy and sell carbon dioxide allowances to any entity. For example, if there is another emitter in a different state that needs to lower emissions, it can purchase allowances from New Hampshire. A coal plant needing to run 24/7 can purchase allowances to offset the dirt it is putting in the air, and these allowances can be purchased from, for example, a wind farm, Harvey said.

"It has actually done quite well. We've lowered emissions," Harvey said.

The first dollar of each credit goes back to the ratepayer, and credits are now selling

for \$4 or \$5 each, Harvey said.

"It amounts to a whole lot of money," she said. "Money first goes back to the ratepayer from the auction. And secondly, through the core program of electricity companies in the state, money is distributed to low-income homeowners for energy-efficiency projects. Then municipalities can send proposals into the fund for energy-efficiency projects also, in municipal buildings. Only then, if money is left over, private homeowners who are not low-income can apply for grants for energy-efficiency."

That money amounts to about \$15 million to \$20 million a year in allowance auction revenues, said Mike Fitzgerald, assistant director of the Air Resources Division with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services. Fitzgerald said that if RGGI is repealed, the state would lose out economically, "very significantly."

Energy-efficiency projects for low-income families can include projects like installing more efficient windows and doors, while municipalities can use the money for schools or any town-owned buildings, Harvey said.

"Energy efficiency is really the goal. It's the best way, a lot of us believe, to spend money," Harvey said.

## What the opponents say

State Rep. Dick Barry, R-Merrimack, is one of the main sponsors of the bill to repeal the law. He was also one of the co-sponsors of the 2008 legislation, when the Granite State joined eight other states in

the Northeast in RGGI.

"The concept is not bad, it's the implementation of it, and we are losing sight of the big picture," Barry said. "We're not spending enough time on how to reduce the cost of energy overall."

Barry says RGGI is actually costing the ratepayer money. He said energy is a major driver of the economy, and with New Hampshire and New England having the highest cost of energy in the country, RGGI has been doing well to work toward

energy efficiency, but the root of the problem is the cost of energy. People think RGGI doesn't cost them, Barry said, but they can see it in our energy bills.

"We're reaching the law of diminishing returns, unless we do something about that. And that money comes out of the pockets of

the ratepayers," Barry said, noting that in order for utilities to buy offsets, they have to charge the ratepayers for electricity.

Barry said the agency is expected to lose \$8 million in state-restricted revenue and \$2 million in local revenue this year, and those figures could climb to \$20 million and \$25 million in the next few years. Barry says his hope is to take the focus off RGGI and put together a serious energy plan that addresses the cost of energy. He also wants a focus on clean, renewable and reliable energy.

"As we lower the cost of energy we will drive the economy, which is more jobs," Barry said.

Harvey says for those who want to keep RGGI, if New Hampshire wants out, Gran-

ite Staters will still be paying the same electricity rates without the benefit of an auction fund that eight other states are getting and using.

"We still pay the rate, but don't get any benefits," Harvey said. "If people care about the environment, and the air we breathe, carbon dioxide is proven to be unhealthy for asthma and other illnesses, and it's also bad for the environment. Anything we can do to lower our carbon emissions, and move toward cleaner producers of energy like wind and solar, the better off we'll all be for generations to come. We need to be good ancestors and care about the future generations, and this is one way we can do that."

## Future impact

Fitzgerald concurred with Harvey on both financial and environmental fronts, should RGGI be repealed. In addition to the state's losing out on about \$15 million to \$20 million a year in allowance auction revenues, Fitzgerald said electricity rates would increase by ¾ of a percent.

Currently, the Environmental Protection Agency is working toward creating the Clean Power Plan, which is expected to be finalized this summer and implemented in 2018.

"RGGI would be our method of complying with that federal program. It would be very difficult for New Hampshire to meet the federal requirements absent RGGI," Fitzgerald said.

Fitzgerald also pointed to the economic benefits of investing in energy-efficiency, which goes toward reduced demand and reduced rates.

"We would lose out on that as well. Those investments provide jobs and economic growth in the state," Fitzgerald said. "Pulling out of RGGI would have negative impacts both environmentally and economically." 🌩

“The concept is not bad — it's the implementation of it, and we are losing sight of the big picture.”

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# Equal pay for equal work

Many employers unaware of, but amenable to, new law



By Josh Rosenson  
jrosenson@hippopress.com

The Paycheck Fairness Act has been in effect since Jan. 1, but some businesses still aren't aware of it, and many are saying it doesn't change much for them.

Sen. Lou D'Allesandro, D-Manchester, says it's really simple.

"Equal pay for equal work, that's what it's all about," he said.

The law says an employer can't discriminate based on sex, and there is a provision that allows employees to openly discuss their wages without fear of retaliation from their employer.

Calls to several local businesses showed that, whether they were aware of the law or not, nothing has really changed in terms of the way employers are running their businesses.

St. Joseph Hospital in Nashua employs about 1,650 full-time, part-time and per diem employees. Shirley Lussier, human resources director, said the hospital will not be impacted by the new law.

"It really does not change any policies for us. We pay based on the job being done. We were paying equally for equal work being done before this," Lussier said. "We do not have a policy against [discussing pay]."

Southern New Hampshire University will not have to change any policies to abide by the new law either, said Brenda Labrie, director of human resources operations. She was unaware of the new law.

"We did not have a formal policy that said you could not discuss your wages," she said.

Tony Matos, owner of Altos, a 15-employee digital agency in Bedford, said he is aware of the new law, but not much has changed.

"It's business as usual. Generally we employ degreed professionals, and I'm a big proponent of equal pay for equal work. I think that we do a pretty good job of compensating the individual fairly, without regard to gender," Matos said.

Judy Pyszka, manager of Chalifour's Flowers in Manchester, also has 15 employees. Prior to speaking with the Hippo, Pyszka

was not aware of the law.

"It really doesn't change anything here. We've been open and neutral about all that stuff," Pyszka said, adding there was no previous policy barring employees from discussing wages. "It's not affecting us, basically."

Jean Mathieu, co-owner of Legacy Financial Solutions in Manchester, said the new law doesn't impact her three-person shop, though she had been unaware of it too. Mathieu said employees have never been barred from discussing wages.

Despite the "no big deal" response from many businesses, D'Allesandro said this issue has been pressed a number of times in the past.

"I think it had a little momentum [this time]. I think the governor is steadfast, and I think those ingredients helped a great deal to get things done. It's a national topic, it's being considered. You get that kind of juice and things happen, victory carries its own momentum," D'Allesandro said.

D'Allesandro said the significant changes were to enforcement and power, and also penalties. Employers are guilty of a violation or misdemeanor subject to a fine of not more than \$2,500 if they are found to discriminate. And despite many businesses still being unaware of the new law, D'Allesandro said, employers are to post — where employees can see — that it is illegal to pay employees differently based on sex.

"I think businesses will react very fairly," he said.

D'Allesandro did, however, point to Republicans, saying during previous attempts to pass similar bills, they had "15 different reasons" to reject such a bill. Sen. Majority Leader Jeb Bradley, R-Wolfeboro, said there was no opposition this time.

Bradley said both parties compromised on the bill, and he commended the Democrats.

"I made it very clear to my caucus that we would support this bill. It was something that both sides were happy with, and it was signed to great fanfare. We all voted for that," Bradley said. 🐼

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# No. 1 principal

Manchester educator still loves his job

Manchester Memorial High School Principal Arthur L. Adamakos was the recent recipient of the Charles A. Napoli Principal of the Year Award, given out at the New Hampshire Association of School Principals winter meeting in Meredith. He has been in the Manchester School District since 1979, having started out at Hillside Middle School as a social studies teacher. He recently talked to the Hippo about his lengthy career.

**Q:** *Did you ever get sent to the principal's office as a kid?*

No. Are you kidding me? My mother and father set the ground rules for me and my brother's behavior at an early age, so that never happened.

*Did you always want to be an educator?*

No, actually, I wanted to be a lawyer first. ... I was going to take a year off to find myself, just earn some money to go to law school. I started substitute teaching in Nashua, and the assistant superintendent, Lawrence O'Mara, said, 'Why don't you give this a try for the year you're off? We're always looking for subs.' I found I was a natural at it; a year later [while working toward certification] I got hired at Hillside. ... I took over for someone who was on maternity leave, and I just stayed with the school district.

*What was your first teaching experience like?*

That's hard to say. Well, you know, when you're subbing for someone there is virtually no responsibility — you're handing out the information they prepared — but when you're teaching on your own you're responsible for a number of things, including the long-term success of the student, getting to know the kids, getting to know your colleagues and the building you're working in and, most importantly, understanding your role as a role model.

*When and how did you become principal?*

I started off as being an assistant principal at West in '88, working with Bob Baines, the former mayor. It's just been a natural progression. After six or seven years there, I got promoted to be the principal at Hillside. And it was then that I realized the tremendous amount of responsibility for the success of the whole school, not just your students. There is a tremendous weight of responsibility for

### Five favorites

**Favorite Book:** Anything by Malcolm Gladwell.

**Favorite Movie:** I just saw *American Sniper* and loved it.

**Favorite Musician:** The Beatles, but the kids can't relate to that. Train and Matchbox 20.

**Favorite Food:** Anything that's healthy.

**Favorite thing about NH:** The fact that people are friendly here, and there is so much to see — the mountains, the seashore and, in Manchester, of course, the museums.



Arthur L. Adamakos

the success of the entire school, not just the 100 or so students you have in your charge as a teacher. Then in '95 I came back to Memorial to be principal, the school I actually taught at the most, the longest.

*What is the biggest challenge you have faced as principal?*

Boy, the biggest challenge is to try and help everybody that comes through your door that needs your assistance. When people say you have seen everything, you have *not* seen everything. I'm always surprised.

*What are some of the greatest rewards?*

The greatest reward is seeing those people who have overcome great obstacles to get their diploma. For some people, they defy the odds and walk at graduation. You have to know the personalities of the kids and the obstacles they've overcome to be there.

*What does being named Principal of the Year mean to you?*

I think it's important for the city of Manchester. No. 1, we finally get some recognition again. The last time anyone had won the award was in 1990. And the second thing is, I think it's great for the school; we get some recognition. ... It's not done by one person alone.

*How much longer do you see yourself in this role?*

This my 18th year being the principal at Memorial. I've got a few good years left in me. I still love doing the job, I love coming in. As long my health holds up, I'm good enough for the short term, but I don't know what the future holds.

*What advice would you like to give to young educators?*

There are two things they should keep in mind. One is, you have to love working with kids. And the second thing is understanding what your role is in education, and that means preparing them for the next step in their education or their careers and being a good role model. — Josh Rosenzon



# QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

## Money for homeless projects

The Granite State will be the recipient of more than \$6.6 million in grant funding for 68 homeless housing and service projects, NHPR reported. The grants come from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development and will go toward direct housing assistance, street outreach and client assessment, as well as enable local providers to continue with permanent and transitional housing, job training, health care, mental health and substance abuse counseling and child care.

**QOL Score:** +1

**Comment:** *Anything to help the underserved earns points.*

## No riots in Durham

Who says we can't celebrate responsibly? In the two weeks leading up to the Super Bowl, police were preparing to deal with the aftermath, which has not always been a display of model citizens after championships past. Durham police reported two to three thousand students were out and about, high fiving police and taking selfies with UNH President Mark W. Huddleston. No arrests were made, according to a press release.

**QOL Score:** +1

**Comment:** *In contrast to the Keene State riots after the Pumpkin Fest, UNH students showed celebrating can be done responsibly.*

## Snow tools destroyed

One thing worse than snow is being short of snow removers in the wake of a blizzard. A fire destroyed a fleet of snow plows in Henniker, according to the Concord Monitor; it broke out at the Henniker Highway Department Friday night after the plows had finished clearing the streets. Firefighters were unable to enter the building because of heavy flames and smoke — the building lacked an automatic fire sprinkler system — and five dump trucks used as snow plows, one road grader and several other vehicles were destroyed. The only unharmed heavy equipment: two pickup trucks and a front-end loader parked outside. According to the state Fire Marshal's office, damage could exceed \$1 million.

**QOL Score:** -1

**Comment:** *On the nice side, neighboring towns including Weare, Antrim, Bradford, Deering, Hillsboro and Hopkinton, were reportedly working to help with Henniker's snow removal this week, with future plans still underway.*

## New Hampshire pride

The news is out: Jared Cassidy, director of fine arts for the Windham School District, won the Grammy Music Educator Award. Cassidy was named a Top 10 finalist in December (chosen amidst a nomination pool of more than 7,000 applicants, submitted from all 50 states), and the news of his award was announced Monday morning, according to an Eagle Tribune report. The award means to recognize educators, kindergarten through college, who have made significant and lasting contributions to the field of music, and who have demonstrated a commitment to the broader cause of maintaining music education in the schools.

**QOL Score:** +1

**Comment:** *See — you don't have to leave New Hampshire to make it big in the arts industry. Cassidy flies to Los Angeles this week to attend the Sunday Grammy Awards ceremony.*

**QOL score: 62**

**Net change: +2**

**QOL this week: 64**

*What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at [news@hippopress.com](mailto:news@hippopress.com).*

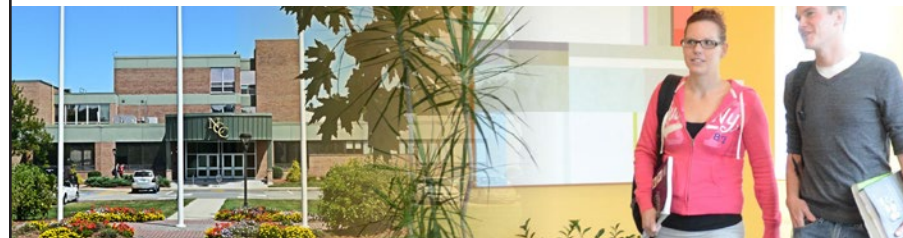
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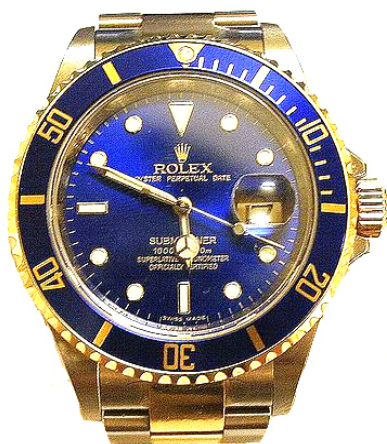
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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS



# A little luck helps Pats

Super Bowl win No. 4 finally came to New England on Sunday via a dramatic 28-24 win over the Seattle Seahawks. It came after a decade of Patriots seasons ending with a playoff loss. The roller coaster of emotions created by the memory of two excruciating last-minute Super Bowl losses to the New York Giants and a game filled with twists and turns served to show just how fine the line is between immortality and infamy.

It also raised a question for the ages in Seattle and elsewhere, which is why would anyone throw the ball a yard away from the game-winning score in the final minute when **Marshawn Lynch** is your running back?

That strange decision goes up there with others of the last two centuries such as (a) **Grady Little** leaving **Pedro Martinez** in after **Derek Jeter's** eighth-inning double in 2003, (b) **Hitler** attacking Russia when he had things going swimmingly in the early days of WWII, (c) Coke changing the recipe of the world's most popular soft drink for no reason, (d) **Bill Clinton** saying hey I think I had a connection with that intern Monica, (e) **Mitt Romney** thinking the GOP brass would say hey, great idea, why not run after losing the first two times.

But somehow Seattle decided to do that and it saved the Patriots in a way I never thought possible in the seconds leading to the biggest play of **Malcolm Butler's** life. Of any game I've ever seen, for a team I was rooting for, that was the miracle finish I didn't think would happen. It was like being a Mets fan in 1986 as **Vince Scully** was saying, "... and there's a slow roller up the first base line ...."

I also thought they were dead after giving up 17 straight points to go down 10 as Seattle looked to be taking control for good. In fact, I started writing about where

I thought the responsibility was for what appeared to be a third straight Super Bowl loss. Two paragraphs which clearly show that when you lose in the big game they only remember the bad, and I had my laser focused on:

**No. 1 Culprit – Defensive Coordinator Matt Patricia:** The Patriots gave up touchdowns in the final minute of the first half in the regular-season loss to Green Bay as well as the Ravens, Colts and Seahawks in the playoffs. Why? Because they keep going with the prevent. Earth to Matt: The only thing the prevent defense does is prevent your team from winning. But they did it again to give Seattle a gift TD in final 2 minutes to send it to half 14-14.

**No. 2 Culprit – Tom Brady:** Take all the stats and throw them out the window because that's where they belong. Isn't that what everyone used to say about **Peyton Manning** when the Pats used to win big games against him? This time despite the impressive stats, Brady threw a gigantic interception in the end zone early on Sunday, and his second one led to a TD for a 10-point lead. Add that to similar mistakes vs. Green Bay, Baltimore and Indy and you've got a QB making huge mistakes at bad times. Throw in the bonehead safety early in the 2011 Super Bowl and other big playoff miscues and the question is do we still call him Tom Terrific or **Peyton II** in the big playoff moments the last 10 years?

Then the fourth quarter happened to show just how thin the line is between being called a goat by knuckleheads like me and being the hero. Not to mention that when you win, all they remember is the good stuff. As Brady went from "Aw, Tom, come on!" to MVP, where with time slipping away he went 13-15 for 138 yards to lead two TD drives against the NFL's No. 1 defense to put them on the brink.

Of course, he did that against the Giants too. But thanks to a once-in-a-lifetime

catch by **David Tyree** and once-in-a-lifetime throw and catch by **Eli Manning** to **Mario Manningham** it's forgotten, as the fine line between immortality of a 5-0 Super Bowl record for **Bill Belichick** and a more pedestrian 3-2 mark was made painfully clear to Patriot Nation. That's why most probably wondered "Can it happen again?" after **Jermaine Kearse** made a catch nearly as unlikely as Tyree while lying on his back at the five.

But then, with the rumble of **Vince Lombardi** rolling over in his grave in the background, they threw it instead of giving it to Lynch three feet from a repeat. It made Butler and his goal line pick of **Russell Wilson** the **Mookie Wilson** of football with a play that will be remembered in these parts forever.

The final thing this game reminds us is that the hallmark of the Belichick Patriots, particularly this group, is their mental toughness. You saw it when the sky was falling after the KC debacle, when geniuses like **Trent Dilfer** said, "The Patriots just aren't that good anymore." You saw it with the blocked field goal to squeak by the Jets as they were getting back on track. You saw it when they came back from 14 down twice to beat the Ravens three weeks ago. And finally, there it was on Sunday as Brady shrugged off those two bad picks to lead the largest fourth-quarter comeback in SB history, which settled the Peyton vs. Tom argument for good and inched him closer to Montana in the best-ever argument as well.

Now, with their fourth title in hand and a 75.9 winning percentage over the last 14 years of the Belichick era the only thing left is to bring on the dynasty talk, which we'll do next week. And to say two last things: WHAT A GAME! And ...

I can't believe they didn't give it to Lynch.

Email Dave Long at [dlong@hippo-press.com](mailto:dlong@hippo-press.com).

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# Hello, ECHL Monarchs

**The Big Story:** The rumors that the Manchester Monarchs will no longer be the Manchester Monarchs came true on Thursday when the L.A. Kings announced the M's will be moving west to take up residence in Ontario, California, for the 2015-16 season. The reason is simply logistics — the Kings want their top farm team within shouting distance to cut down on costs and the time it will take call-ups to get to L.A. That's the bad news. The good news is the world famous Verizon Wireless Arena will have hockey next season, as the Kings will move their ECHL franchise that's now in Ontario to Manchester for the season ahead.

**Sports 101:** Only three head coaches have won a Super Bowl and a national championship in college. Name them.

**Alumni News:** He turned down an offer a few years back to be offensive coordinator at Oregon over family concerns about moving across the country to live in the Pacific Northwest. So two times is the charm for Boston College OC **Ryan Day**, who accepted **Chip Kelly's** offer last week to become quarterback coach with the Philadelphia Eagles. Aside from the obvious significance of becoming QB coach on a team the rumor mill says is angling hard to move in the draft to get Kelly's former

recruit at OU **Marcus Mariota**, the move also makes them the first ever NFL duo of ex-Manchester Central QBs to be on the same NFL staff together.

**Knick of Time Award:** To Trinity's **Tom Stone**, who potted the game-winner with less than two minutes in overtime to go to give the Pioneers a 3-2 with over St. Thomas in mid-week.

**Hot Ticket:** Bruins Alumni game at Saint Anselm's Sullivan Arena on Sunday at 1 p.m., featuring stars **Rick Middleton**, **Terry O'Reilly** and **Brad Park**. Tickets are \$10 for general seating and \$40 for limited reserved seating that is available at [www.cmf.org/tickets](http://www.cmf.org/tickets). All proceeds benefits the Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center Accessible Recreation and Sports program.

**Sports 101 Answer:** The three who won both a Super Bowl and a national college football championship are **Pete Carroll**, **Jimmy Johnson** and **Barry Switzer**.

**On This Date – Feb. 5: 1969 – Vince Lombardi** becomes part owner, GM and coach of the Washington Redskins; **1991 – Howard Stern** kisses **Leonard Marshall's** behind over bet Stern lost that the NY Giants would lose the Super Bowl. **Born: 1934 –** baseball Hall of Famer **Henry Aaron**; **1942 –** Dallas Cowboys Famer QB **Roger Staubach**. 🌩️

## The Numbers

**4 –** consecutive wins by the Central girls after a 48-40 win over Bishop Guertin on Friday when **Mary Soares** and **Angelique Ngalakulondi** combined for 23 points to lead the way.

**9 –** wins against no losses and no ties for the Bedford hockey team, who kept their

record spotless with a 6-3 win over Londonderry when five different players scored led by **Asa Palker** with a pair of goals.

**14 –** points scored each by **Bri Purcell** and **Nikki Tucci** in leading Bedford to a 62-33 win over Dover.

**27 & 6 –** points scored and allowed by Nashua North in their fourth-quarter blitz that

propelled them from five down to 62-46 winners over stunned Pinkerton as **Taylor Choate** led the way with a game-high 17 for North.

**35 –** consecutive games won by now 7-0 Central after it downed Bishop Guertin 75-67 behind 26 from **Joey Martin** and 19 from **Omaru Kante**. 🌩️

## Sports Glossary

**Mookie Wilson:** Hard to forget New York Mets centerfielder who hit the slow dribbler that got by **Bill Buckner** in Game 6 of the 1986 World Series to live in local infamy.

**Trent Dilfer's Statement:** It came on national TV after the Patriots got blasted by the Chiefs. In the historical realm of "Boy, I wish I hadn't said that" statements it goes up there with **George H. W. Bush** saying "Read my lips: no new taxes," **Slick Willy Clinton** saying "I did NOT have sex with that woman, **Ms. Lewinsky**," Fox broadcaster and two-time SB MVP **Terry Bradshaw** saying "I may be dumb, but I'm not stupid" and just about anything said by aptly named New York Congressman **Anthony Weiner**.

**Vince Lombardi:** NFL coach who made the decisive call in the famous Ice Bowl game of 1967. With the ball on the Dallas one and trailing 17-14 in the waning seconds, instead of going for the tying field goal or passing to give him two plays, he went with the winner-take-all move of running it with no timeouts left. He reasoned that fans freezing in the -30 temperature deserved to go home instead of to OT and that traction on the frozen tundra was too poor to stop **Bart Starr's** sneak. The gamble paid off, as guard **Jerry Kramer** was able to push **Jethro Pugh** just enough for Starr to get in and send the Pack on to the first Super Bowl.

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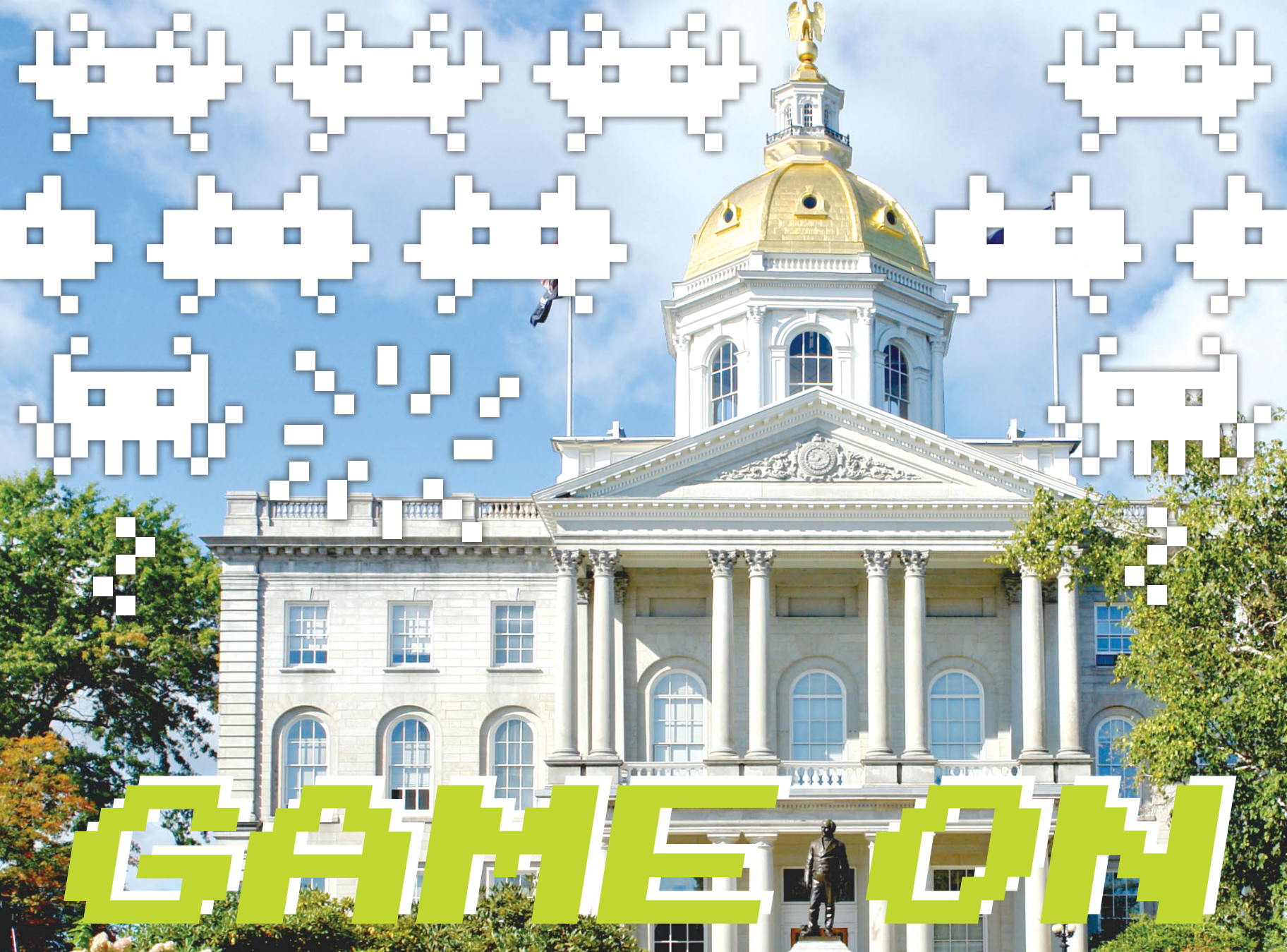
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## *How NH does video games*



By Josh Rosenson  
jrosenson@hippopress.com

The video game culture in New Hampshire is gaining steam, with gaming clubs and conventions throughout the year. Coming soon to the Granite State is Game Assembly, which is part incubator, part workspace for video game designers — an effort to retain the local talent that’s graduating with degrees in programming and

game design.

As the industry grows, old is new again, as ’80s kids become game developers and today’s youth play retro video games on computer emulators. Inspired by the games of yesteryear, modern developers are influenced by the games they played as kids.

“Right now there seems to be a resurgence of ’80s stuff. There’s been remakes of various arcade games,” said game designer Calvin Goble of Robot Loves

Kitty. “I think it’s partially because all the people who grew up in the ’80s are kind of the content creators of the 2015 space.”

### **Retro modern mix**

With next-gen consoles — Playstation 4, Xbox One — over a year old now, there is a resurgence among young gamers wanting to play classics.

This resurgence isn’t entirely new, says Mike Stulir, vice president of The Amer-

ican Classic Arcade Museum in Weirs Beach. He said emulators on computers have been around for about 15 years, enabling people to play old arcade games.

But the love of retro is still growing, and store owners are seeing it too.

A.J. Evarts, owner of Level Up Gaming in Manchester, hosts Flashback Friday, a free tournament where players have been gravitating toward the old.

“The kids are getting into emulators,



## GAME PLAY

**Designer:** Ed Brillant, instructor at SNHU in the game development program

**Previous Work:** *Sim City*, *Disney Spotlight*

**Current Project:** *Lords of New York*

**Game talk:** Brillant has worked on the uber popular *Sim City*, as well as the karaoke game *Disney Spotlight* during the past 14 years in the industry. His current project, *Lords of New York*, is a poker RPG, where when you level up your character unlocks poker attributes.

"It's pretty exciting. It's a cool game. That's [for] Lunchtime Studios," Brillant said.



An image from *Lords of New York*.

which are things on the computer. They emulate [retro] games. After they do that, they actually want the original thing. It's actually grown the market — the prices are going up," Evarts says.

Kids are playing on consoles like Atari, Super Nintendo and N64. Popular throw-back games include earlier iterations of *Mario Kart* and *Mortal Kombat*, Evarts said.

NeonBomb in Manchester caters to those fancying new and retro games. Owners Jeff Normandin, Jason Paige, Artie Eliakos and Christian Porter offer a wide selection of retro games and game systems, including various Nintendo, Playstation, Sega and Atari consoles.

Normandin teaches English at Memorial High School in Manchester, where Paige teaches social studies. The two head up the Memorial Video Game Club, which has a bunch of old systems and games along with some newer stuff.

"You can go in and pick up a controller and play a Gamecube or Genesis, whatever you want to play," Normandin said.

There are 30 students in the video game club, and Normandin said the most popular games are *Super Smash Bros.* on Wii U and *Mario Kart*. Normandin said while the club can't play shooters, games like the *Call of Duty* and *Battlefield* series are popular, along with *Skyrim* and the *Dragon Age* series.

"Those are always the go-to games for a lot of people. Fighting, racing and shooting for the most part," Normandin said.

## Meet the makers

Here in New Hampshire, independent developers are earning their place alongside the much larger development companies.

"The industry is starting to change a little. The landscape is starting to change. In the past, they had a lot of large companies and a couple of small independent companies, that consist of 5 [to] 10 employees," said Ed Brillant, a game design coordinator, game artist and instructor at Southern New Hampshire University in the game development program.

"What you're seeing now is the indie companies, these small groups, balancing

out the larger companies."

Calvin Goble and Alix Stolzer, the husband-and-wife tandem of Manchester-based Robot Loves Kitty, draw on the games they played as kids, with the goal of designing games they can enjoy playing together. They played different games as kids — while Goble was at the arcade hacking away at *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, Stolzer was playing *Rogue* on an Apple IIe she got for free because it had a mouse nest in it.

"This is the best time to get back into PC gaming, in that there are so many indepen-

## Recommended playing

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#### Top 5 Retro Games

*Super Mario 3* - NES  
*Battletoads* - NES  
*Mega Man X* - SNES  
*Super Mario World* - SNES  
*Mortal Kombat 2* - SNES

#### Top 5 Modern Games

*Grand Theft Auto V* - Xbox One, PS4  
*Halo 4* - Xbox 360, PS3  
*H1Z1* - PC and Mac  
*Battlefield 4* - Xbox One, PS4  
*Call of Duty: Advanced Warfare* - Xbox One, PS4

### The Team of NeonBomb

#### Top 5 Retro Games

*Final Fantasy 6* - SNES  
*The Legend of Zelda Ocarina of Time* - N64  
*ICO* - PS2

*Super Mario Bros. 3* - NES  
*Castlevania* - NES

#### Top 5 Modern Games

*The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim* - PS3, Xbox 360, PC  
*Team Fortress 2* - PS3, Macintosh, OS X, GNU/Linux, Microsoft Windows, Xbox 360  
*Portal 2* - PS3, OS X, GNU/Linux, Microsoft Windows, Xbox 360  
*Bioshock* - Microsoft Windows, Xbox 360, PS3, OS X, Cloud, iOS  
*Fallout 3* - PS3, Xbox 360, Microsoft Windows.



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**GAME PLAY**

**Designer:** David Carrigg of Manchester, co-founder of Retro Affect  
**Previous Work:** *Snapshot*  
**Current Project:** *Upsilon Circuit* and others he can't yet talk about  
**Game talk:** Carrigg's work on *Snapshot*, a puzzle platformer, has seen over 300,000 copies purchased since the end 2012 on Steam, as well as outside of Steam, in either bundles or discount packages. *Snapshot* was born of other puzzle platformers, old and new.  
"It's really all over the place. It's kind of a mix [of retro and current]. I grew up playing video games, so that's where my roots are and what I enjoy playing," Carrigg said.  
Now, Carrigg has teamed up with Robot

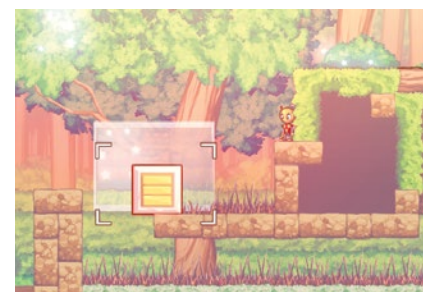


Image from *Snapshot*.

Loves Kitty on *Upsilon Circuit*, an action RPG meets game show, which is still in production. He has two other projects in the pipeline, but was unable to reveal anything about them yet.

dent developers," Goble said. "All the indie games that are available, they are more interesting and they harken back to retro stuff."

Goble and Stolzer are self-taught — Goble a self-proclaimed college dropout and Stolzer a massage therapist. Before coming to Manchester they lived for a while in a treehouse in Vermont and worked on games like *Legend of Dungeon*, which is available for PCs on Steam, an Internet-based digital distribution platform, and has sold over 200,000 copies.

"Steam, you make a game and get approval, then they throw it up on their site and take 20 percent of the sales," said David Carrigg, who runs Retro Affect from his home in Manchester.

"I'm very, very fond of *Legend of Dungeon*. We made it because we wanted to play it. It's just another reason we enjoy doing [this] so much, because we get to make games we want to play," Goble said.

*Legend of Dungeon* is a combination of the duo's childhood favorites, featuring the randomization of *Rogue* and the beat-em-up style of *TMNT*.

"We don't have a publisher to answer to — it's just us and our fans," Stolzer said.

The team moved to the Granite State about a year and a half ago and connected with Manchester developer Neal Laurenza. Laurenza introduced Goble and Stolzer to Carrigg and the two have since teamed with Carrigg on their current project, *Upsilon Circuit*.

Laurenza's current game project is *Bacon Man*. It already has the greenlight for Steam on Mac and PC. And while Carrigg's current work is on *Upsilon Circuit* with Robot Loves Kitty, he has another project up his sleeve he can't yet talk about.

"It's going to be pretty cool when it's done," he said of *Upsilon Circuit*.

As for combining retro inspiration with modern technology, Carrigg pointed to games like *Mario Kart*, which has been remade using improved physics and platform mechanics.

"As we are making games now, we are

kind of pushing the envelope. In addition to getting inspiration from retro games, we are working with new and better technology," Carrigg said.

Ed Brilliant, an instructor for the SNHU game development program, has spent 14 years in the industry and has worked on titles spanning Xbox 360, Playstation 3, PC and iOS. His background is in art, and he has worked as an art director, lead artist, animator, environment artist and lead character designer. The most famous game he worked on was on *Sim City*, and he's contributed to lesser-known games like *Disney Spotlight*.

Greg Walek, a professor for Animation Graphic Game Programming at NHTI in Concord, said his most well-known work was on *Marvel: Ultimate Alliance*. He worked at Raven Software, part of Activision, a nationwide company with locations all over the U.S. Walek also worked at Klear Games (no longer in business) on a *Batman Begins* mobile game.

Walek is also a regional organizer of Global Game Jam, which was held in January at both NHTI and SNHU. Global Game Jam is the world's largest game creation event. Teams are given a theme, and then they brainstorm what could make good games, then they have 48 hours to execute it. It could be board games, paper and pencil RPGs or video games. All the games can be downloaded from the Global Game Jam website (globalgamejam.org — NHTI and SNHU have pages).

"It's not a competition; it's a collaborative event," Walek says.

## Game Assembly

Laurenza and Carrigg, who have their own companies (Skymap Games and Retro Affect, respectively), are spearheading a sort of video game incubator called Game Assembly, which, in February or March, will open in Manchester, either on Elm Street or in the millyard. It will provide office space for a network of New Hampshire game developers to work in. Carrigg says there is a handful of developers who



## GAME PLAY

**Designer:** Neal Laurenza of Skymap Games  
**Current Project:** *Bacon Man*  
**Game talk:** *Bacon Man* is a three-year project slated for completion between October and December of this year. It's a side-scroller in which the main character fights his way through the other food groups on a revenge mission. It's inspired by classics like *Earthworm Jim* and *Mega Man*. *Bacon Man* already has the greenlight for Steam, and a console announcement may be coming soon. "Bacon Man is a side-scrolling 3D platformer where you can fight your way through the food groups. Bacon Man is the rightful heir to the meat throne and he is framed for the murder of his grandfather, Old King Roastbeef," Laurenza



Image from *Bacon Man*.

explains. "So *Bacon Man* is on a revenge story, pursuing those who dethroned him. This involves going through all the food groups and beating up fruits and vegetables so there is only meat. It's totally over the top." Laurenza also does contract work for larger game companies.

live in New Hampshire but currently have to commute to Massachusetts for similar office space.

"It will be an open office for any up and coming game designers, for experienced game designers, and anyone else who is looking to get more information about the video game industry in general," Carrigg said.

Game Assembly already has some serious fans.

"We are huge supporters. We're in. We're not technically part of the not-for-profit that he's making, but we are helping out whenever we can," Stolzer said.

Walek hailed the arrival of Game Assembly too.

"That's a huge, huge game-changer. When he gets that going it's going to change things in the state. The soil is extremely fertile," Walek said.

Laurenza and Carrigg's work to establish the International Game Developers Association New Hampshire Chapter kind of spawned Game Assembly. The IGDA meets once a month with guest speakers and demo nights, with over 75 people in attendance every month. Laurenza hopes members from that group will want to pool their resources at Game Assembly.

Carrigg said Game Assembly's goals include building a game industry in New Hampshire by retaining local talent and growing game-related companies. It will also promote education with classes and free workshops and by forging connections between local schools and the industry.

## Getting schooled

So where are local developers getting their education? Some, like Goble and Stolzer, are self-taught, but others are taking advantage of programs at schools like NHTI and SNHU.

Laurenza graduated from SNHU with degrees in game design and development and business, and Alex Quin is currently a junior studying game design.

"[At SNHU] we teach both for the low end, for mobile and the high end — for consoles and PC. We teach for as many platforms as we can," Brilliant said.

He said the program is always evolving to stay up to date and is revamping some programming to include artificial intelligence, graphic game engines and physics engines.

Quinn is a programming major, with a minor in game art.

"One of the big things we try to push here is students taking minors," Brilliant said. "We want them to be as valuable as they can."

Quinn is the president of the game design and development club on campus and is responsible for organizing a number of events. The club holds Game Jam in the fall, when over 50 students break up into 16 teams and design games over a 24-hour span, with the goal of making the best game.

Over at NHTI, Walek said, the programming degree starts with computer science, adds in-game development, and focuses on technology and game development techniques.

## Upcoming events

- NeonBomb is in the process of starting an adult club dubbed the **Manchester Vegas Video Game Club**. A small group has started up on Facebook, and the goal is to have people come play in the store on a regular basis.

- The annual **Queen City Kamikaze**, which features video games, comic books, anime, sci-fi and other pop culture elements, will be held at Memorial High School in Manchester on March 7. One of the highlights will be a video game tournament.

- NeonBomb has teamed up with **Extra Life**, a gaming program where you play games in a 24-hour marathon and receive pledges to raise money for hospitals in the Children's Miracle Network. People come to the store to participate, and events will be starting in the Queen City in February.

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**GAME PLAY**



**Designer:** Calvin Goble and Alix Stolzer of Robot Loves Kitty based in Manchester

**Previous Work:** *Legend of Dungeon*

**Current Project:** *Upsilon Circuit*

**Game talk:** *Upsilon Circuit* is an action role-playing game with swords that slice and dice monsters. And there's a twist: There is only a single server in the world and only eight people can play at a time. When someone dies in the game, they can never play again and are replaced by a new player. The game will only be played through once.

"The game actually broadcasts out to a live audience. It's like a TV show, but for the Internet, and it will only broadcast for a couple hours a day," Stolzer said.

"When someone dies, they are replaced by a new audience member, kind of like a game show," Goble added.

The live host of *Upsilon Circuit* is Ronny Ragon, who resembles former President Ronald Reagan and Max Headroom from the 1980s sci-fi show.

"There's a lot of retro stuff going on in this," Goble said. "That's what most creativity is, taking two things you like and making them one."

"Dinosaurs and jetpacks," Stolzer added.

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"[It's] how to build a game, basically," Walek said. "We are using the latest technology in the industry."

Walek says the school works on Unreal Engine 4, Unity 3D and HTML5, and can port to many different platforms, including iOS and Android.

Since Christmas, the school has acquired two Oculus Rift development kits, which you wear over your eyes. Walek said students haven't played a game on it yet, but the school has been using Microsoft Kinect in the Emerging Technologies class, and he's looking forward to seeing what happens when someone combines Oculus Rift and Kinect.

Walek said that while credits don't transfer to the prestigious DigiPen in Washington state, students have been accepted there after enrolling at NHTI. Each year DigiPen, which works closely with Nintendo and offers specialized degree in video game production, takes about 250 students, and last year two NHTI students were accepted. Walek also said students transfer to SNHU very well, and to UNH, as well as out of state, whether it's for more programming or designer art.

**Starting younger**

RoboTech Center in Nashua offers programs for students age 7 to 17 who want to explore video game design. One class teaches students how to design their own Xbox game. Naveena Swamy, the technology engineer advisor at RoboTech (and author of *Basic Game Design and Creation for Fun and Learning* and *Collaborative Game Creation*), said it can be played on iPhones and Androids, too. The week-long program teaches the game design process and how to build a simple game with original characters and background.

RoboTech has been in operation since 2002 and, for more intense learning, offers a summer residential program at RoboTech Center Labs, Rivier College in Nashua, the Boston Museum of Science and Minuteman Career School in Lexington, Mass. It's an all-day program held in addition to the day camp program.

"We want to encourage middle school and high school students to take this course and develop skills in AP computer science," Swamy said.

She said RoboTech also offers internships and had six MIT interns last summer. She said people who worked with RoboTech back in 2002 still come back looking for referrals, and former students are encouraged to come back for internships.

"Being a student, coming back in college, taking an internship and going on to teach is very powerful," Swamy said.

**Preserving history**

Carrigg grew up in Meredith, about five minutes from Funspot, the world's largest arcade, in Weirs Beach.

"So, there's really, as far as the culture goes, we have some great things like Funspot, the largest arcade in the world, in the Lakes Region," Carrigg said.

Stolzer and Goble both have fond memories of playing in arcades.

"If you went to an arcade when you were younger, it's a wonderful place to go," Stolzer said of Funspot. "Arcades have their own unique culture."

Mike Stulir is vice president of The American Classic Arcade Museum, which, though a separate entity from Funspot, takes up almost its entire third floor. It was founded in 1998 to preserve arcade games and educate the public.

"We're like an attraction within Funspot," Stulir said. "It's a labor of love."

Stulir said the museum has a massive collection of games. In the last 15 years a collection of over 300 games has been built, with more in storage waiting to be restored as time and funds become available.

There is one question, Stulir says, that he gets asked a lot: "Why would you put a video game museum in New Hampshire?"

"I always respond to them, 'Video games got started in New Hampshire.' The first video game console was developed by Ralph



# GAME PLAY

**Designer:** Greg Walek

**Previous Work:** *Marvel: Ultimate Alliance*, *Batman Begins* (mobile)

**Current Project:** Regional organizer for Global Game Jam

**Game talk:** Walek has been a professor at New Hampshire Technical Institute for eight years in Animation Graphic Game Programming. He was previously at Raven Software, which is responsible for games such as *Wolfenstein* and *Quake 4*, among others. At Raven Software (part of the giant Activision), Walek worked on *Marvel: Ultimate Alliance* for all platforms. He also worked on the *Batman Begins* mobile game.

Currently, Walek serves as the regional organizer for Global Game Jam, a three-day event that recently took place



Courtesy photo

at Southern New Hampshire University and NHTI. Global Game Jam is an event for game designers, where they are presented with an idea for a game and

then have 48 hours to develop it. Games can range from pencil and paper RPGs to video games, and each school has a site dedicated to the participants' work.

Baer, who lived in Manchester," Stulir said.

Stulir met Baer in 2001 and remained friendly with him until Baer died in December. Baer was the inventor of the Brown Box, which the museum has one of the few replicas of — the original sits in the Smithsonian. The Brown Box was the first console that allowed you to control what you did on the TV, Cartrigg said. It's not on display at the museum; instead, it is used in education programs for college students around New England.

"We have what we believe is the last replica, which he built for us prior to his death," Stulir said.

Another item the museum uses in education programs is Video Toss, which Baer invented in early 1990s to make video games more interactive. Baer took a Nintendo Entertainment System and built a sensor to sit on top of the TV. Instead of using the gun for the popular NES game *Duck Hunt*, you could fling Nerf balls at your TV and the sensor would detect when you hit a duck.

"It's not any different than Kinect on Xbox or EyeToy on Playstation," Stulir said.

Stulir called Baer a "very forward thinker." In July the Smithsonian will be opening an exhibit celebrating American inventors, in which Baer's ideas will be on display.

"His entire basement is going to be recre-

ated down at the Smithsonian, just as it was," Stulir said.

As for the future of arcade games, Stulir noted an explosion in mobile gaming on cell phones and tablets and called the popular games "no different than the arcade games."

"There are so many similarities with the games of the arcade with what we are seeing now on phones and tablets. Instead of a stand-up [arcade game] you're playing it on a mobile device," Stulir said.

He did say, however, that while these mobile games are similar, they lack the social aspect enjoyed by those who frequented the arcade.

Stulir said the return to retro isn't a new phenomenon in consoles. He was one of three people, from 2004 to 2006, involved creating the Flashback and Flashback 2, which were self-contained miniature replicas of the Atari 7800 and Atari 2600. Each sold over 1 million copies, and they were sold in big stores such as Best Buy. He said Flashback 2 recreated the 2600 motherboard on a single chip, and the system came preloaded with 40 games. He said you could also solder it and play original cartridges.

"There definitely has been some degree of explosion in [going back] to the old games," Stulir said. "Simple can be fun."

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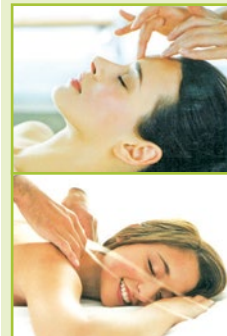
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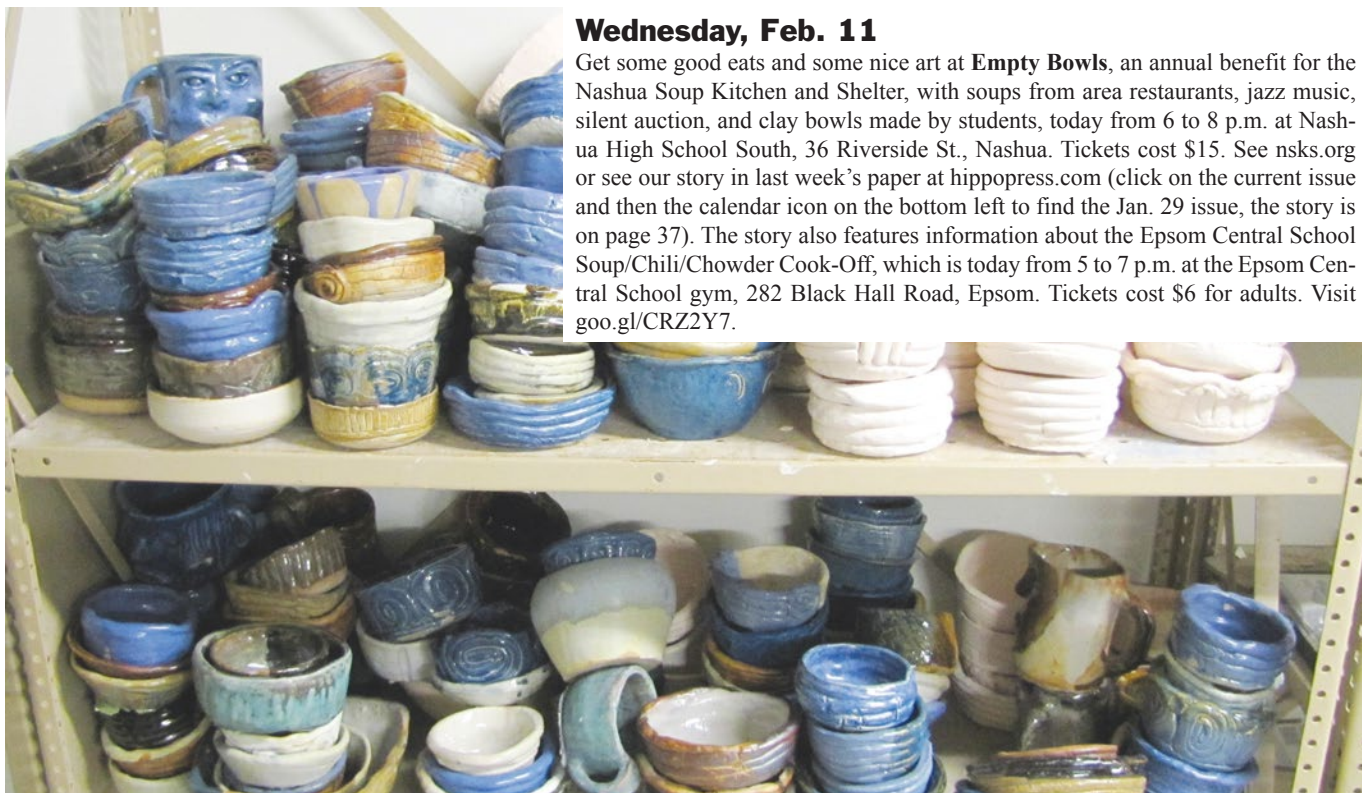
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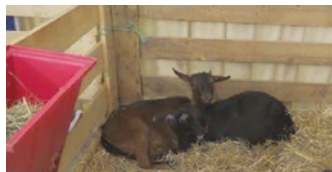
# THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT FEBRUARY 5 - 11, 2015, AND BEYOND



## Wednesday, Feb. 11

Get some good eats and some nice art at **Empty Bowls**, an annual benefit for the Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter, with soups from area restaurants, jazz music, silent auction, and clay bowls made by students, today from 6 to 8 p.m. at Nashua High School South, 36 Riverside St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$15. See [nsks.org](http://nsks.org) or see our story in last week's paper at [hippopress.com](http://hippopress.com) (click on the current issue and then the calendar icon on the bottom left to find the Jan. 29 issue, the story is on page 37). The story also features information about the Epsom Central School Soup/Chili/Chowder Cook-Off, which is today from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Epsom Central School gym, 282 Black Hall Road, Epsom. Tickets cost \$6 for adults. Visit [goo.gl/CRZ2Y7](http://goo.gl/CRZ2Y7).



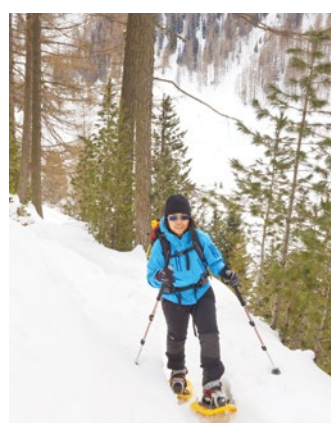
## Friday, Feb. 6

Snow covers the ground now but spring isn't so far away (really!). Prepare for your backyard garden with a visit to the **NH Farm and Forest Expo**, which starts today (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.) and continues tomorrow (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at the Radisson in downtown Manchester. Learn about the more than 100 exhibitors bringing tractors, baby goats, ice cream and more at [nhfarmandforestexpo.org](http://nhfarmandforestexpo.org) or in our story in last week's paper. Go to [hippopress.com](http://hippopress.com) and click on the current issue and then the calendar icon on the bottom left to find the Jan. 29 issue, the story is on page 26.



## Friday, Feb. 6

Golfers can get some much-needed time with their clubs at **Snowfest** today at Loon Mountain from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This golf tournament (of sorts) in the snow is a benefit for CASA of New Hampshire. Find out more at [casanh.org](http://casanh.org) or in our story in last week's paper. Go to [hippopress.com](http://hippopress.com) and click on the current issue and then the calendar icon on the bottom left to find the Jan. 29 issue, the story is on page 29.



## Saturday, Feb. 7

The New Hampshire Outdoor Learning Center will hold a class on **Advanced Animal Tracking** today from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Learn more about animal habits and track identification. The cost is \$125 and the group will meet at 7 Cooper St. in Loudon. See [nhoutdoorlearning.com](http://nhoutdoorlearning.com).



## Sunday, Feb. 8

Whether your jam is "Over the Rainbow" or "If I Only Had a Brain," you can belt out all of your **Wizard of Oz** favorites at the **Wizard of Oz Songfest**, featuring a sing-along presentation of the **Wizard of Oz** movie at the Concord Public Library, 45 Green St. in Concord, today from 2 to 4 p.m. This all-ages event features goody bags, refreshments and a strong suggestion to wear costumes. Seating is limited. See [concordpubliclibrary.net](http://concordpubliclibrary.net) or 225-8670.

**Eat: Honey from your own bees**  
 Learn about the basics at the **Beginning Beekeeping Workshop**, which will feature a discussion of basic terms, honeybee biology and equipment needed to get started, on Saturday, Feb. 21, from 3 to 5 p.m., at Canterbury Shaker Village, 288 Shaker Road in Canterbury. The cost is \$35. For details and to register visit [shakers.org](http://shakers.org).

### Drink: Powerful cabs

**WineNot Boutique** (170 Main St. in Nashua, [winenotboutique.com](http://winenotboutique.com), 204-5569) will hold a series of classes on cabs on Thursdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. starting Feb. 5 with a look at cabernet sauvignon from Napa Valley. Future classes include cabs from mountain regions on Feb. 19; Washington state, Sonoma and Paso Robles cabs on Feb. 26, and "Cabs from Around the World & Opus One" on March 5. The cost is \$40 per class or \$160 for all four classes; call to register.

### Be merry: At the ice castle

See the artistic side of ice at the **New Hampshire Ice Castle**, an acre-sized all ice castle with archways, caverns and a frozen throne at 64 Railroad St. in Lincoln, according to a press release. Open daily (Sunday through Thursday from 2 to 9 p.m., Friday from 2 to 10 p.m., and Saturday from noon to 10 p.m.), the ice castle will be around into March (weather permitting). Tickets cost \$19.95 (with discounts for children and weekdays). See [icecastles.com](http://icecastles.com).



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Saturday, February 14



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# ARTS

## The Place to be

New community art center in downtown Concord

By Kelly Sennott  
ksennott@hippopress.com

The name of Christa Zuber's new downtown Concord arts center — The Place Studio & Gallery — came about after she read an article by Robert Steuteville on why “place” is the new American Dream.

Not that white picket fences, houses, yards and expensive cars aren't important. But Steuteville thinks this generation — who experienced walkable college neighborhoods with diversity, culture and mixed-use main streets and downtowns — has come to prefer this over suburbia. They're looking for cities with history, charm and character, and where there's a clear sense of place.

Hence, The Place.

Zuber started the business on a whim; she almost purchased an art center in Abu Dhabi, which is where her sister lives. Her sister had been trying to get Zuber and her husband to make the move, and when that fell through, Zuber was devastated.

“She found this art business for sale, and that's how this whole conversation started. It kind of started as a joke, but we ended up putting a bid in. ... I had this whole idea built up in my head, and then [when they didn't get it], I didn't really know what to do. So for a couple of months, I just kind of



Christa Zuber at The Place Studio & Gallery. Kelly Sennott photo.

dropped it,” Zuber said. “But then I thought, why can't I still stay and do it here?”

So this fall, Zuber quit her job at the Out-FITters Thrift Store, got a loan and settled in the quarters that used to house Imagination Village. She opened The Place in late October with the idea that it would become a downtown community art center, a place where people — particularly adults who'd lost their inner artist — could relax and create in a low-key setting.

“In Concord in particular, we have Kimball Jenkins and McGowan, which are great for fine art, but there was nothing this accessible,” Zuber said.

Zuber's been working to find the balance between fine art and paint bar. She's seen that paint night events — in Manchester, Portsmouth, Nashua — have been both popular and approachable for New Hampshireans, particularly those who haven't held a paint brush in a while.

But The Place is a little more open-ended and less expensive. Kind of like a paint-your-own-pottery place, you can stop by at any time, not just when a class is happening, and drop-in costs are \$6 for kids, \$10 for adults, plus the cost of whatever you're

painting or decorating. If you're purchasing something from The Place, it could cost as little as \$2 and will likely be a canvas, piece of ceramics or cardboard cut-out to decoupage (cutting and gluing with scraps of paper).

Though really, Zuber encourages people to come in, use the materials, tables and chairs and paint whatever they want. Zuber, who used to teach at the Currier Art Center in Manchester, has hosted classes that involved making or decorating alcohol ink tile ceramic coasters, hand-painted and marbled wine glasses, decoupage shoes, decoupage bangle bracelets, braided silk scarves and hand-painted furniture.

Decorating the bright turquoise walls is artwork by local artists, including Zuber (photography, bags, and photography-adorned pillows), and lying on a table is a half-decoupage frame with Superman comic book cut-outs, purchased from Out-FITters Thrift Store a few buildings down.

At the time of the interview, Zuber was preparing for a busy February. On the to-do list was an open house, a paint night, a handful of date nights and Valentine's Day workshops and, on Feb. 19, a comic book-themed day.

### February events

**Drop-in, Photo Coasters for Valentines:** BYO photos, \$20 per person, Thurs., Feb. 5, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**Date Nights:** Fridays from 5 to 9 p.m., two-for-one sitting fee, BYOB every Thursday and Friday from 5 to 9 p.m.

**Drop-in, Make Your Own Valentines:**

Sunday, Feb. 8, noon-6 p.m., \$10 total

**Paint Night, Mixed Media Jim Dine**

**Hearts:** Thursday, Feb. 12, from 6 to 8 p.m., \$35

**Drop-in, Decoupage Heart Boxes:** Saturday, Feb. 14, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., \$5 total

**Family Paint, Mixed Media/Still Life:**

Sunday, Feb. 15, 1:30-3:30 p.m., \$25

adults, \$20 students/children

**Drop-in, Comic Book Day:** Thursday,

Feb. 19, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; bring your own comic book to use, and the studio sitting fee waived, priced between \$2 to \$25

**Open House:** Saturday, Feb. 21, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., \$5 to \$10, table of art-making projects

“We're partnering with Double Midnight Comics downtown,” Zuber said. “We'll be decoupage shoes, frames ... with comic books. ... Though you can really decoupage anything.”

The goal is to make The Place a quintessential, well, place, for Concord's downtown. This idea influenced her wanting to find a spot on Main Street, and also her decorating the business's back room with chalkboards for visitors' scrawls and messages (“No piece of art can be left without a mess!”) and a gallery space for artwork by Concord's school kids.

It's been scary, but exciting too.

“Some days, it's really frightening, but most days, it's really exciting to build something truly yours,” Zuber said. “For a lot of people, it's scary to take that leap and to leave behind a steady paycheck, but it has so many rewards. What you're building is yours, and that's exciting.” 🌱

### Visit The Place Studio & Gallery in February

**Where:** 9 N. Main St., Concord, 227-6148, facebook.com/ThePlaceConcord, theplacestudioandgallery.com

**When:** Stop in and make something at any point of the day; open every day except Monday, visit the Facebook page/website for class schedule

**Cost:** Drop-in costs are \$6 for kids, \$10 for adults, plus the cost of whatever you make (ceramics, canvas painting, decoupage, wine glass art, etc.), RSVP for all classes by noon the day prior to class, all supplies included

### 20 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

### 20 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

### 24 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

#### Art

##### Events

#### • JOURNEY THROUGH THE WHITE MOUNTAINS

Photographer and avid hiker Dave Smith will present “Journey Through the White Mountains: Photos, History, and Folklore.” Thurs., Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court

St., Nashua. Free. See nashualibrary.org or call 589-4610.

#### • FIRST FRIDAY STROLL

In downtown New London between four galleries on Main St. Fri., Feb. 6, 5-7 p.m. Whipple Hall, 429 Main St., New London. New London Inn, 353 Main St., New London. Zero-Celsius Wealth Studio, 288

Main St., New London. Lake Sunapee Bank, 321 Main St., New London. Free. Visit center-fortheartsnh.org for updates.

• **PEN AND INK: THE ART OF EDITORIAL CARTOONS IN THE AGE OF CHARLIE HEDBO** Presentation featuring Shreyas Navare, Weatherhead Central Fellow and

freelance editorial cartoonist for Hindustan Times. Tues., Feb. 10, at 6 p.m. UNH Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester. Free. Visit wacnh.org.

• **EMPTY BOWLS** Annual benefit for the Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter with soups from area restaurants, jazz music, silent auction, and clay

bowls made by students, faculty, staff and National Art Honors Society members. Wed., Feb. 11, from 6-8 p.m. Nashua High School South, 36 Riverside St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$15, available at Nashua High School South main office. Visit nshs.org.

#### Theater

##### Productions

• **BYE BYE BIRDIE** Musical by Palace Youth Theatre. Thurs., Feb. 5, at 7 p.m.; Wed., Feb. 11, at 7 p.m.; Thurs., Feb. 12, at 7 p.m. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. \$12 for adults, \$10 for children. Visit palacetheatre.org, call 668-5588.



# LOCAL — COLOR — NH art world news

• **Slam-dunk work by NHIA student:**  
The New Hampshire Institute of Art is continuing to help its students make connections and find work in the real world before graduation. Senior illustration major Brittany Inglesse created art that brands the indie rock-focused, pop culture concert experience, the Alt-Star Party, hosted by the Rock on Foundation in New York City's Bowery Ballroom Feb. 13. ROF is a nonprofit founded by New Hampshire's most notorious basketball brothers, Luke and Matt Bonner, meant to help increase access to community artistic and athletic opportunities. Her poster design was chosen in a competition among the school's illustration and graphic design students. She said in a press release that she's in disbelief that her work is being used to market this NBA-affiliated event and is very grateful for the \$2,500 scholarship that goes along with the win.

• **International editorial cartoons:** UNH Manchester (400 Commercial St., Manchester, manchester.unh.edu) hosts speaker and presenter Shreyas Navare, fellow at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard, for a presentation, "Pen & Ink: The Role of Editorial Cartoons in India and Around the World," on Tuesday, Feb. 17, at 6 p.m., in the third floor auditorium. Most recently, Navare served as the freelance editorial cartoonist for the Hindustan Times, India's leading newspaper. During the presentation, he'll examine the art of editorial cartooning and provide a demonstration of caricatures. At Harvard, he's researching the role of visual arts and innovation in overcoming barriers to education, as described on the college website. The event is free and open to the public with advanced registration; visit wacnh.org.

• **Most inspiring cities for artists in the Northeast:** Printaholic.com named



Luke Bonner, Brittany Inglesse and NHIA President Kent Devereaux. Courtesy photo.

two New Hampshire cities — Concord and Portsmouth — among the 10 most inspiring for artists in the Northeast. Concord was included for its early American history, lush scenery and small-town atmosphere, while Portsmouth was noted for its picturesque views of the ocean, architecture, shops, docks and eateries. They stood alongside Providence, R.I.; Manhattan, N.Y.; Cambridge, Mass.; Wilmington, Del.; Harrisburg, Pa.; New Haven, Conn.; Augusta, Maine; and Annapolis, Md.

• **Two, please:** Another reason to avoid crowded restaurants and movie theaters this Valentine's Day — during the month of February, Studio 550 hosts date nights both Fridays and Saturdays at 6 and 7:30 p.m., during which participants get crash courses on how to throw on the pottery wheel. To avoid double-booking, the studio only takes reservations by phone or in person, and classes are limited to four couples each. All materials and instruction are included in the \$60-per-couple fee. The pottery made during date nights will be finished and ready for pick-up approximately four weeks after the date night. Visit 550arts.com or call 232-5597. — Kelly Sennott

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ARTS

# Transcending truth

LeLand Gantt brings *Rhapsody in Black* to NH

By Kelly Sennott  
[ksennott@hippopress.com](mailto:ksennott@hippopress.com)

*Rhapsody in Black* became what it is today due to "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou.

The poem, sung by Ben Harper, struck actor and playwright LeLand Gantt "like lightning" during an epiphany years back. He was sitting in his kitchen, mulling over how to connect a series of seemingly unrelated monologues, when the song came on.

"It was my first formal play. It was a series of monologues that had nine discrete characters. Those who knew me said [the voices] sounded like me and suggested that I own the story. That I use the monologues and put them together in a timeline of my life. But I still didn't have an organizing principle for it," Gantt said during a phone interview last week.

Angelou's words formed clarity: "You may write me down in history/With your bitter, twisted lies/You may tread me in the very dirt/But still, like dust, I'll rise."

"The epiphany led to the organizing principle of the work: the psychological effects of young black men working and growing up in America," Gantt said.

His play became *Rhapsody in Black*. The one-man show took years of writing, re-writing and direction from Academy Award-winning actress Estelle Parsons (best known for *Bonnie and Clyde*), and it explores Gantt's personal journey to understand and eventually transcend racism in America, starting with his unprivileged childhood in the ghettos of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, to his eventual scholastic and theatrical achievements that often land him in situations where he's the only African-American in the room.

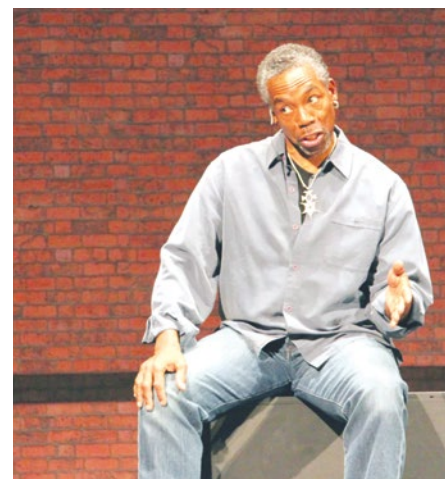
"I'm just trying to start a conversation," Gantt said. "A lot of black folks don't know that much about white people, and the same holds true for white people. They only know what they've heard or read. And a little misrepresentation goes a long, long way."

It wasn't until he began telling the story onstage that Gantt realized what a vulnerable act it is. He discloses a lot—as a teen, he experimented with crime and drugs, but most revealing are his feelings at being marked "The Other."

## See *Rhapsody in Black*

**In Meredith:** Winnepesaukee Playhouse, 50 Reservoir Road, Meredith, Tues., Feb. 10, at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., \$12 to \$18, [winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org](http://winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org)

**In Derry:** Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry, Wednesday, Feb. 11, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. (10 a.m. performance in the large theater, 7 p.m. in the small black box theater); \$6 to \$15, [stockbridgetheatre.com](http://stockbridgetheatre.com)



LeLand Gantt. Courtesy photo.

"People started reacting to me. They said, 'You're so bare and naked up there.' ... In the quest to tell the truth and be honest, I hadn't thought about my own protection. ... It's not something a lot of people talk about. It's something that exists, and you know, it needs to be talked about."

In its nearly two-year history, the play has done well; this past fall, Gantt won "Best Storyteller" and Parsons won "Best Direction" at the United Solo Theatre Festival in New York, and more recently, *Rhapsody in Black* won third at the International Performing Arts for Youth Conference in Philadelphia.

Parsons, who lives in New York and owns a summer home in Wolfeboro, became enamored when she heard Gantt's work at The Actors Studio, which is a "kind of gym for method actors" in the city. She moderates sessions every week along with Hollywood greats like Alec Baldwin and Al Pacino.

"We kept saying, 'Come on, bring in some more!' ... Everybody was terribly excited about it," Parsons said. "We showed it to a black director who owns New Federal Theatre in New York, who said it was terrific—and that all black men feel this way, but nobody says it."

The ideas and feelings kind of transcend cultures, races and stereotypes. At one showing, a white woman from South Africa burst into tears and said, "This is the story of my life during the Apartheid." A woman in a wheelchair told Gantt it resonated with her experiences, and an Asian man came up to Gantt after a show and said *Rhapsody in Black* changed his life. Women have also found connections, Gantt said.

"I think there's a universal truth in [the play]. It really kind of talks to the human condition. I'm trying to convey what was a real journey, as honestly and truthfully as possible," Gantt said.

Gantt will perform in Meredith's Winnepesaukee Playhouse Feb. 10 and in Pinkerton Academy's Stockbridge Theatre Feb. 11. 🍷



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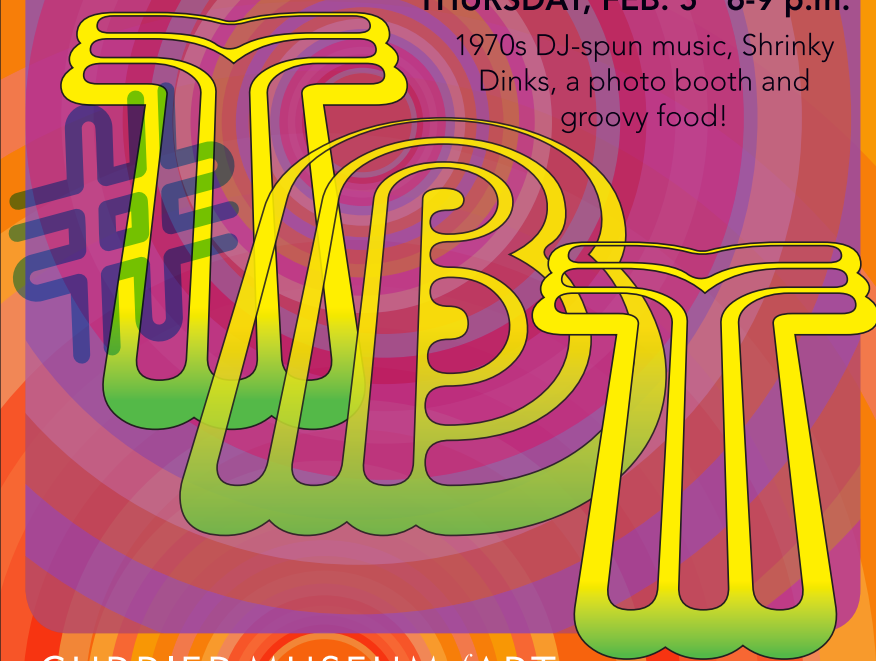
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ARTS

# CURTAIN — CALL —

Notes from the theater scene

• **Fine art and fine theater:** Theatre KAPOW reads *A Picasso* by Jeffrey Hatcher on Sunday, Feb. 8, at 2 p.m., at The Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. The players present the play in relation to the museum's "Woman Seated in a Chair" (1941) by Picasso.

*A Picasso* is set in Paris, 1941, when German Occupation forces summon Picasso from his favorite cafe and brings him to a storage vault across the city. Miss Fischer, a beautiful "cultural attaché" from Berlin, is the interrogator and needs to know which of the three Picasso paintings confiscated by the Nazis from their Jewish owners are real. Picasso discovers the plan is to burn his "degenerate art," and becomes desperate to save his work and engages in a "pressurized negotiation" with Miss Fischer. (The company hinted at a surprise twist ending.) Admission to the reading is free with museum admission (\$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$9 for students, though students, faculty and staff from seven area colleges also receive free museum admission). Visit tkapow.com.

• **Culture culture hits mid-life crisis:** The Community Players of Concord's next feature production is *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, a comedy for adults by Charles Busch. It tells of a frustrated Upper West Side culture vulture, Marjorie Taub, who spends free time attending art lectures and avant-garde performances in search of enlightenment. She becomes depressed after her therapist



On Sunday, Feb. 8, theatre KAPOW reads *A Picasso* by Jeffrey Hatcher at the Currier Museum of Art. Matthew Lomanno photo.

dies — in fact, she has a meltdown in a Disney store — until she meets again with a childhood friend who "opens a few windows Marjorie should have left closed," according to a press release. Showtimes are Friday, Feb. 13, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Feb. 14, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Feb. 15, at 2 p.m., at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$14 for juniors/seniors if purchased before Feb. 11, \$18 and \$16 thereafter. Visit communityplayersofconcord.org, call 344-4747 or email nhdm@comcast.net.

• **15th anniversary concert:** Women Singing Out! celebrates 15 years with an anniversary concert this Saturday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 8, at 3 p.m., at Christ Episcopal Church, 1035 Lafayette Road, Portsmouth. New artistic director Dr. Deirdre McClure has put together a program of choir and audience favorites taken from the 15-year history. The singing group comprises lesbian and lesbian-supportive women who sing for social change. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors, free for students. Visit womensingingout.org or email byouree@yahoo.com.

— Kelly Sennott

### • UNCONDITIONAL LOVE: THE LETTERS OF JOHN AND ABIGAIL ADAMS

With Kelly Horan Galante as Abigail Adams, Josiah George as John Adams, play presented by Artists Collective Theatre. Fri., Feb. 6, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 7, at 8 p.m. Hunt Memorial Building, 6 Main St., Nashua. \$25. Visit act-theatre.org, call 703-4221.

• **NANA'S NAUGHTY KNICKERS** Majestic Theatre dinner theater performance, includes dinner of roasted vegetable ravioli, tossed salad, fresh hot rolls, chef's choice of starch, vegetable and baked good dessert, coffee and tea. Cash bar. Fri., Feb. 6, 6:30 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 7, at 6:30 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 8, at 1 p.m. (Meals served at 7 p.m./1:30 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m./2:30 p.m.). Executive Court Banquet Facility, 1199 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester. \$38 Friday and Saturday performances, \$35 Sunday. Majestictheatre.net.

### Classical Music Events

• **FANFARE** Fundraiser for Symphony NH, involves dinner, silent auction, music, dancing, raffle prizes, cocktails. Fri., Feb. 6, at 5:30 p.m. Crowne Plaza, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua. \$75. Visit symphonynh.org.

• **VOICE: IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE** British ensemble Voice presents a program of Shakespearean song, medieval music, folksong arrangements from the UK and Ireland, and contemporary repertoire including a set of newly commissioned works by British composers. Fri., Feb. 6, 8 p.m. Silver Center for the Arts, 114 Main St., Plymouth. Adult \$30, Senior \$28, Youth \$15. Call 535-2787. Visit plymouth.edu/silver-center.

• **ZOIA BOLOGVSKY, PAUL DYKSTRA** Keiser Concert Series of St. Paul's School, Concord, concert featuring Bologvsky on violin and Dykstra on piano. Includes music by George Ger-

shwin, Edvard Grieg, Sergei Prokofiev. Fri., Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Oates Performing Arts Center, St. Paul's School, 325 Pleasant St., Concord, Concord. Free. Call 229-4680, visit sps.edu/keiser.

• **SIMPLE GIFTS: HYMNS AND SACRED SONGS** Musicians of Wall Street presents program of sacred music with Concord Community Music School faculty members, selections include "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," "Brother James' Air," "Be Thou My Vision" and "Amelia," etc. Fri., Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. \$15 for adults, \$12 students/senior 228-1196, ccmusicschool.org.

• **MUSIC AT THE MILL** Eight New England musicians perform jazz, blues, folk, country classical. Includes evening & musical theater improv performances. Sat., Feb. 7, 7-10 p.m. Art Happens, 37 Wilton Road, Milford. \$12. Arthappensnh.com, 654-2287.



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Get Listed

From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

# INSIDE/OUTSIDE

## Stories where the sun rises

### NH's first Native American storytelling festival

By Allie Ginwala  
aginwala@hippopress.com

Storyteller Papa Joe Gaudet isn't one for pioneering new events. "I don't really like to start new festivals," said Gaudet, board member for New Hampshire Storytelling Alliance. "I generally think we have a lot ... that just need more support so I would much rather be helping out something that I believe in."

But when it comes to creating an opportunity for New Hampshirites to share stories, cultures and traditions, he's willing to make an exception.

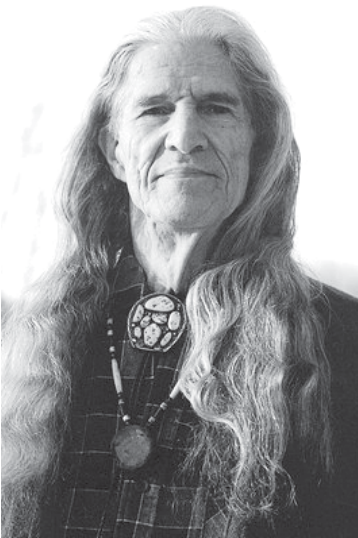
"This is something that didn't exist," he said.

To help fill the void, the Storytelling Alliance organized Dawnland Storyfest, New Hampshire's first Native American story festival hosted by the Mariposa Museum & World Culture Center in Peterborough on Saturday, Feb. 7, from noon to 8 p.m.

Put together in only 30 days, the February festival came together

**Dawnland Storyfest**

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 7, from noon to 8 p.m.  
**Where:** Mariposa Museum & World Culture Center, 26 Main St., Peterborough  
**Cost:** Free, donations accepted  
**Visit:** mariposamuseum.org, nhstorytelling.org/dawnland-storyfest



Featured storyteller Medicine Story. Courtesy photo.

as a way to host storyteller Medicine Story as featured speaker. An Assonet Wampanoag elder, philosopher, storyteller, poet and lecturer, Medicine Story (also known as Manitonquat) has written 10 books and spoken to peace conferences and groups on three continents.

With the spring, summer and fall already filled for both Medicine Story and the New Hampshire Storytelling Alliance, Gaudet went to the town of Peterborough to suggest a festival in the winter.

"The Mariposa has been incredibly helpful and the town library and other commercial entities were right behind," Gaudet said. "Once I started talking, it just sort of avalanched."

The festival's name, Dawnland, reflects the title the native tribes gave this region, Gaudet said. "We're using English translations ... but all of them called this 'Dawnland,' the area where the sun rises," he said.

Dawnland refers to the eastern region, which extends into Canada as well.

The goal for Dawnland is to become an annual festival each February,

a fitting time to tell Native American stories. Gaudet explained that some tribes and cultures believed that telling stories was reserved for wintertime,

a traditionally non-workable season spent gathered together inside.

The inaugural festival will be broken into two segments so guests can choose to spend a few hours or the whole day immersed in stories.

"You can spend eight hours listening to stories and never hear the same one twice," Gaudet said.

Open to all ages, the festival starts at noon with a social at the Mariposa Museum that gives guests the chance to meet and chat with

the guest tellers. The featured "concert" with Medicine Story begins at 1 p.m. and will be followed by an open circle. Open circles, Gaudet said, give everyone a chance to tell a story, regardless of their experience or background.

Three New Hampshire tellers, Kim Hart, Peter Brodeur and Debora Ballou, will share at 3 p.m., followed by another open circle. Two children's story groups from

Rindge and Jaffrey will share their stories before the festivities break at 5 p.m. for guests to visit local restaurants and shops in Peterborough. The evening will finish with another concert with Medicine Story at 7 p.m. and a final open circle.

"There are hundreds of Native American stories, many of which are teaching tales; [it was] pretty much the education system of the early inhabitants of this land," Gaudet said. "The way they would teach was to watch for teachable moments and tell a story that would help direct the energies of the listeners, which would help form how they think about things."

*You can spend eight hours listening to stories and never hear the same one twice."*

PAPA JOE GAUDET

**Children & Teens**  
**Children events**

•**KIT & CABOODLE** Interactive concert for children of all ages showcases original songs by Betsy Rosenberg and Rahel. Sat., Feb. 7, at 10 a.m. Art Happens, 37 Wilton Road, Milford. Cost is \$15 for child and adult, \$5 for additional child. Visit arthappensnh.com.

•**WIZARD OF OZ SONGFEST** Go "Over the Rainbow" and sing along to and watch the Wizard of Oz movie. Join for a costume party, goody bag, trivia, refreshments. Interactive program for all ages. Costumes strongly encouraged. Sun., Feb. 8, from 2-4 p.m. Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord. Free. Seating limited to 100. See concordpubliclibrary.net or 225-8670.

•**CHOO CHOO SOUL WITH GENEVIEVE** Kids' Disney music/concert. Fri., Feb. 13, at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. \$24.50-\$44.50. Email davidrousseau@palacetheatre.org, call 668-5588, visit palacetheatre.org.

•**ALICE IN WONDERLAND TEA PARTY** Guests will decorate a Valentine treat, sip tea or apple juice and hear selected readings from Alice in Wonderland. Dress in fancy or whimsical attire to match the theme. Sat., Feb. 14, at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover. \$20 for nonmembers, \$15 for members. Visit childrensmuseum.org. Call 742-2002 to reserve a spot.

**Crafts**  
**Holiday craft workshops**

•**ZENTANGLE VALENTINES** Nesmith Library craft club will lead a workshop showing how to make Zentangle Valentine's Day cards. Wed., Feb. 11, at 6 p.m. Nesmith Library, 8 Fellows Road, Windham. Free. Call 432-7154 to register. Visit nesmithlibrary.org.

•**VALENTINE DROP-IN CRAFT** Stop by to make a thumbprint heart necklace for someone special. Leave necklaces to dry overnight and pick them up on Friday. Open to all ages. Thurs., Feb. 12, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Pelham Public Library, 24 Village Green, Pelham. Free. Visit pelhampubliclibrary.org.

•**DROP-IN VALENTINE'S CRAFT** Create a special gift for

a loved one. All materials provided. Thurs., Feb. 12, from 4 to 6 p.m. Peterborough Town Library, 2 Concord St., Peterborough. Free. Visit peterboroughtownlibrary.org.

**Dance**  
**Special ballroom dances**  
•**VALENTINE'S BALLROOM DANCE NIGHT** Live music with Trilogy; admission includes delicious dessert buffet. Sat., Feb. 14, 7:30 p.m. Rockingham Ballroom, 22 Ash Swamp, Newmarket. \$18/per person. Call 659-4410.

**Special folk dances**  
•**ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE** Rich Jackson will lead dances with live musical accompaniment. Beginners and singles

welcome. Sun., Feb. 8, from 5:30 to 7:45 p.m. Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant St., Concord. Cost is \$8. Call 934-2543 for more information. Visit nhcds.org.

•**CONTRA DANCE** David Millstone will call with music by Liz and Dan Faielle. Beginners, singles and families welcome. Sat., Feb. 21, from 8 to 11 p.m. East Concord Community Center, 18 Eastman St., Concord. Cost is \$7, \$5 for ages 15 to 25, under age 15 is free. Call 225-4917 or visit nhvt.net.

**Health & Wellness**  
**Events**  
•**AFFORDABLE CARE ACT Q&A** Patient navigators and bilingual certified application counselors will provide educational presentations and enroll-



# KIDDIE — POOL — Family fun for the weekend

## Tea parties and Toto

Get fancy on Saturday, Feb. 7, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Concord Library's Penacook Branch (3 Merrimack St., Penacook). Join the Friends of the Penacook Branch Library for a **royal tea party**. Come dressed in your royal finery to enjoy crafts, refreshments and, of course, tea! Children ages 5 and up are cordially invited to this free event. Call 225-8670 or visit [concordpubliclibrary.net](http://concordpubliclibrary.net).

Follow the yellow brick road and take a trip over the rainbow for the **Wizard of Oz Songfest** at Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord) on Sunday, Feb. 8, from 2 to 4 p.m. During Songfest, watch the *Wizard of Oz* and sing along with Dorothy and her friends. Goody bags, trivia games and refreshments will also be available. Program is welcome to all ages. Don't forget to wear your ruby slippers. (Costumes are strongly encouraged). This event is free; seating limited to 100 people. Visit [concordpubliclibrary.net](http://concordpubliclibrary.net) or call 225-8670.

## Scientific fun

Enjoy an evening of out-of-this-world activities on Friday, Feb. 6, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Drive, Concord). The **All About Asteroids** program will include a planetarium show, team workshop, sky watch and a presentation on NASA's asteroid work. Call 271-7827 for fee information or visit [concordpubliclibrary.net](http://concordpubliclibrary.net).

SEE Science Center (200 Bedford St., Manchester) will kick off its February family workshop series that's all about chemical reactions on Saturday, Feb. 7, from 11 a.m. to noon, and Sunday, Feb. 8, from 2 to 3 p.m. Drop-in for 15 minutes or 40 minutes to try out **toy chemistry**. Mix together liquids and see what happens! Family workshop is intended for children ages 6 to 10. Workshop



is included in regular admission. Visit [sciencecenter.org](http://sciencecenter.org).

## Hearts and crafts

Say "be mine" and give your valentine a handmade card this year crafted during Wadleigh Memorial Library's (49 Nashua St., Milford) **valentine craft** on Saturday, Feb. 7, from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Kids of all ages are welcome to drop by the children's room. Visit [wadleighlibrary.org](http://wadleighlibrary.org) or call 249-0645 for more information.

Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord) will also feature a **valentine craft** during Take Your Child to the Library day on Saturday, Feb. 7, from 1 to 2 p.m. Head over to the Blanchard Room to celebrate the day of love with crafts. Visit [concordpubliclibrary.net](http://concordpubliclibrary.net) or call 225-8670.

Have a **crazy craft day** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson) on Saturday, Feb. 7, at 9:30 a.m. Come to the children's room and craft the day away while supplies last. Visit [rodgerslibrary.org](http://rodgerslibrary.org).

## Make it a movie day

Snuggle up inside with two movies to get you through the wintry weekend. On Friday, Feb. 6, Manchester City Library West Branch (76 N. Main St., Manchester) will screen **Peter Pan Live** at 3 p.m. in the meeting room. Visit [manchester.lib.nh.us](http://manchester.lib.nh.us).

Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) will screen **Tangled** Saturday, Feb. 7, at 2 p.m. Watch as Rapunzel leaves her tower to find adventure. Visit [nashualibrary.org](http://nashualibrary.org).

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## IN/OUT TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

Can you tell me anything about this sign? I found this in the walls of my new/old home. I think the company may be out of Boston. The sign is 9 inches by 13 inches and metal. Any help would be appreciated.

Dave from Amherst

Dear Dave,  
What a sweet advertising sign.

The sign you have is actually a Hood's Rubber Company advertisement for their rubber boots. The company started in the late 1800s in Watertown, Mass., and produced footwear but also a line of rubber boots as your sign displays.

I found out that their rubber boots were used during World War I for British soldiers. I am thinking this is probably the time frame of your sign. I also think there might not be too many of these around because this was such a small part of what the company manufactured.

The company was sold off in the early 1900s to a name we all know, B.F. Goodrich of Akron, Ohio. It kept the plant in Watertown and continued the line until the close of the plant in the 1960s. Even though the Goodrich Co. owned it, they kept the name Hood's until the 1950s.

I think the most interesting part of this is that you found this in a wall. This kind of thing happens often. I have seen floors of attics covered in cardboard advertising signs. I have seen garage walls nailed up with tin signs. I think that people used extras or waste from where they worked for



insulation purposes in their homes. No matter what the reason was, today you can still find pieces of the past hidden within older homes, and your sign is a great example of this.

Your tin sign is worth in the \$800-plus range. I did a lot of research and couldn't find many out there, which makes it a rare one. So Dave, your sign is a hidden treasure.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

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ment assistance for the Health Insurance Marketplace. Sat., Feb. 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Manchester Community Health Center, 145 Hollis St., Manchester. Free. No appointment necessary. Call 935-5300 for details.

**•INFORMATION SESSIONS ON THE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE**  
Tues. through Feb. 10, from 4-6 p.m. Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst. Sessions are free and open to the public. Call 673-2288 and email contact library@amherstlibrary.org.

## Misc

### Gaming events

**•DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**  
Newcomers or experts are welcome to enjoy a character building workshop with CPL and Double Midnight Comics. Open to teens and adults. Tues., Feb. 10, at 5 p.m. Concord Public Library, 45 Green St., Concord. Call 230-3682 for more.

**•SUPER SMASH BROS. TOURNAMENT**

**ADULTS** Super Smash Bros. for Wii U games will be played on the big screen for those 18+. Thurs., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Free. Visit nashualibrary.org.

## Workshops

**•BEGINNERS FRAME DRUMMING WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN** Beginner workshop will include basic strokes, techniques and traditional Middle Eastern rhythms on the North African Tar. No experience needed. Drums provided. Sat., Feb. 7, from 3-5 p.m. Portsmouth Center for Yoga/Arts, 95 Albany St. No. 14, Portsmouth. \$25. Pre-registration required. Email amyla@juno.com or call 664-2796.

## Over 50

### Events

**•MEETING CAREGIVER NEEDS: SENIORS COUNT WORKSHOP** Presenter Bernie Siefert, coordinator of Older Adult Programs for NAMI NH,

will cover topics such as clarifying a caregiver's role, identifying feelings and findings supports and resources. Mon., Feb. 9, at 1 p.m. Senior Activity Center, 70 Temple St., Nashua. Requested donation is \$2. Call 889-3440 x 132 to register.

## Social Activities

**•VALENTINE LUNCHEON**  
Seniors from Manchester and Bedford are invited. Food and entertainment will be provided. Thurs., Feb. 12, at 11:30 a.m. Salvation Army, 121 Cedar St., Manchester. Call 627-7013 to RSVP by Thurs., Feb. 5.

**•SWEETHEART DINNER**  
Bring a friend and double up on your favorite Bingo Challenging Games, like Large Picture Frame and Four Corners. Lindt chocolate gift bags given as prizes. Meal and live music also provided. Thurs., Feb. 12, at noon. Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant St., Concord. Call Lisa Bresnahan (724-6100) for reservations. See presidentialoaks.org.



# Hockey with a purpose

Boston Bruins alumni come to Manchester



Crotched Mountain Wild player Tim Hogue and Boston Bruins alumni player Bob Sweeney battle for the puck. Courtesy photo.

By Allie Ginwala  
aginwala@hippopress.com

Hockey fans who bleed black and gold should make their way to the Sullivan Arena on Sunday, Feb. 8, to watch Bruins players from different eras face off against the Crotched Mountain Wild.

Alums like Rick Middleton and Bob Sweeney will take the ice for the 5th annual Boston Bruins Alumni Classic, a fundraiser that supports Crotched Mountain's Accessible Recreation and Sports programs, which help those with disabilities experience sports and other physical activities.

Sweeney, Bruins center/right winger from 1986 to 1992 and executive director for Boston Bruins Foundation, has become a regular at the Alumni Classic.

"We usually have a good crew for that game. It's always fun," Sweeney said in a phone interview. "When you first retire and play it's pretty unique and it's a cool way to interact with guys that you watched playing. So when I first retired ... I got to play with guys that I was watching as a kid."

Going up against a team of 12 former NHL players is both daunting and exciting, says Geoff Garfinkle, co-captain of Crotched Mountain Wild and director of therapeutic recreation at Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center. He's been playing and watching hockey since he was 8 years old.

The Crotched Mountain Wild, formerly the Monadnock Wild, is made up of staff, community members and supporters of Crotched

Mountain. Most of the players are involved in other leagues and come together as a team to practice and prepare for the annual classic.

The alums don't hold regular practices, but they do play about 30 local games each year, including a few trips to Canada.

"Over the course of the winter you start hitting the ice enough so it's not something we usually practice," Sweeney said. "[But] we need some young blood to keep up. ... I'm one of the younger guys, and I just turned 51."

Garfinkle said that each year he looks forward to playing against players he either loved or hated as a kid.

"For example, Rick Middleton has become an important person to me," Garfinkle said of the former player, alumni team captain and president of Boston Bruins Alumni Association. "As a kid, I really hated him, as a Buffalo Sabres fan."

Spectators should come ready to watch a fun, Harlem Globetrotters type of game, Garfinkle said.

"In the end these guys might trip you and they're not going to be called, so we have to be prepared for that," Garfinkle said. "They [Wild players] are really psyched for it and work hard to get prepared."

Between periods the Bruins players will hit the bleachers to take pictures and sign autographs.

"We always have fun whether it's before, during or after the game in the locker room," Sweeney said. "The best part of hockey is as long as you can skate you can still play and that's what I think all of us still enjoy."

Both Garfinkle and Sweeney said that they're most excited about helping raise money for a good cause. Garfinkle most looks forward to the chance to share the mission and stories of athletes who have worked with Crotched Mountain Rehabilitation Center. Sweeney hopes to help bring in a good turnout for the game and also looks forward to bringing former Bruins players together. 🍌

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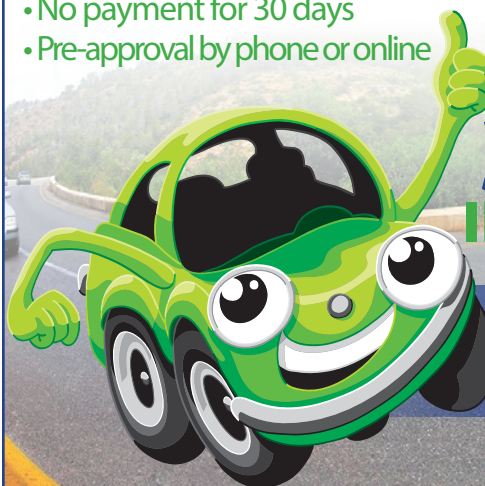
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# Why drive a truck all year if you only rarely need it for towing?



By Ray Magliozzi

*Dear Car Talk:*  
I have a 1999, 8-cylinder Dodge Ram 4-wheel-drive crew-cab truck that has served me well towing my 1-ton pontoon boat. What would you recommend to replace it that might get a little better gas mileage and still provide a comfortable ride for four people? I tow only every other year or so — 800 miles round trip. Thanks! — Kevin

I'd recommend that you replace it with a Toyota Avalon Hybrid, supplemented by a U-Haul rent-a-pickup once every other year.

A lot of our customers make the mistake of buying a car for something they do very infrequently. You know, they get an SUV that's capable of seating eight people for the one trip per year they take to Grandma's with Cousin Itt. And here you are, driving around every day, getting 13 mpg as penance for a chore you have to do only every two years.

An alternative is to get a comfortable family car that you can enjoy 103 out of 104 weeks every two years, and then just rent a pickup (or, even better, borrow one) for your biannual week at the lake.

I mention the Avalon Hybrid because I

drove it recently and was impressed by its roominess and ride, and the nearly 40 mpg it got, city and highway. But you can get any car you like. And then, when you want to haul the boat, you rent a pickup truck and put the towing wear and tear on that. It's not cheap to rent a pickup; you might spend \$500-\$1,000 for the week. But do the math:

If you drive 20,000 miles a year and you're getting 13 mpg, over two years you'll spend \$9,228 on fuel (assuming gas stays at \$3 a gallon, which it probably won't). If you drive that same 20,000 miles a year over two years in a car that gets 40 mpg, your fuel cost will be only \$3,000.

So, even counting the pickup truck rental, you'd still come out ahead by \$5,000 every two years!

There are other options, too. If you really do need a pickup truck, or just want one, for whatever reason, I like the RAM 1500 with the V-6 diesel engine. That gets a combined 22 mpg, with an impressive 27 mpg on the highway, and it handles well, for a humongous beast. Or you could check out the new aluminum-bodied 2015 Ford F-150, which I haven't driven yet. But reportedly it will get similar mileage.

Or, keep your old truck around just for that one vacation week if you really want to.

If it were me, I'd get a car and live it up.

*Dear Car Talk:*

*We have two cars that are each driven about 4,000 miles a year. Since it will take 10 years or so to put 40,000 miles on the tires, should I consider replacing them after a certain number of years, instead of miles? If so, how many years do you recommend for replacement? — Bob*

Well, the American tire industry recommends that tires be replaced every six years, even if the tread is not worn down. Of course, the American Couch Association also recommends that you replace your sofa cushions every three months due to flatulence. And I think both of those industries probably are erring on the side of caution. And increased sales.

Tires do dry out and degrade over time, due to exposure to sun and ozone in the air. I'm sure you've seen old tires that are covered in small cracks on the sidewalls. Those should be replaced.

They also can degrade in and around the tread, where most people don't look. So that needs to be checked, too.

So my advice would be, starting at year six, have a mechanic you trust (and not necessarily a tire salesman) take a good look at

your tires. You need a knowledgeable, non-interested party to do a visual inspection and tell you whether the tires are still good.

If your cars sit outside all the time and you live in a hot-weather climate, and you bought cheap tires to begin with, you may need tires after six years. If they're garaged, or they're particularly good tires, you could get seven, eight or even more years out of them while still driving safely.

And you want to factor in your driving habits, too. If 95 percent of your driving is from your house in a golf community to the clubhouse for lunch and back, the risk of catastrophic failure is low, because heat from high-speed driving is what tends to make tires fail suddenly.

Whereas, if you do a lot of highway driving, you'll want to err on the side of caution and make sure your tires are not near the end of their lives.

By the way, if you're not sure how old your tires are, you can check the sidewall. You'll find a number there that says something like "2214." That means your tires were manufactured during the 22nd week of 2014.

And if they're not 6 years old yet, at least you'll know when to throw them their next birthday party.

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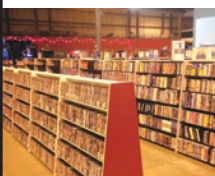
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## Spring flowers

### Shows cure the winter blues

By Henry Homeyer  
listings@hippopress.com

I'm a little spoiled this winter: I got to go to Maui in January for 10 days. You would think that I'd be ready for all the icy roads and drive-ways, but I'm not. I want more warm sunny days. But I know the cure: the spring flower shows. Here's this year's lineup.

The first is the New Hampshire Orchid Society's "Orchid Fantasy Escape" in Nashua at the Radisson Hotel from Feb. 13 to 15. Admission is \$10, \$8 for seniors and free for kids under 12. I think getting kids interested in orchids is a good idea and will try to get my grandchildren to accompany me. George, age 11, already collects succulents, and may find orchids even better. Or perhaps Casey, who loves anything pink, will be the orchid fan. For more info, see nhorchids.org/show.

Next up is the Rhode Island Flower Show Feb. 19-22 at the Rhode Island Convention Center in downtown Providence. This is always one of my favorite shows because it has something new each year, along with favorite displays like the sand sculpture and the displays by the Carnivorous Plant Society and the Rhode Island Wild Plant Society. I love the competition among flower arrangers — one year they had a competition for best bikini made of leaves and flowers (on mannequins)!

Admission to the Providence Show is \$19 for adults, \$16 for seniors and \$7 for children 7 to 12. I like being there on Thursday or Friday as the floor is less crowded than on the weekend. And for me, one of the best parts of the show is the educational workshops. This year Barbara Damrosch, author of *The Garden Primer*, a great basic gardening text, will be lecturing on Thursday and Friday. For more, go to flowershow.com.

That same weekend is the Connecticut Flower & Garden Show at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford. This year's theme is "The Spirit of Spring" with over 300 booths, great landscape displays and over 80 educational workshops. Admission is \$16 for adults, \$4 for kids 5 to 12, and \$14 for seniors over 62 on Thursday and Friday. If you are traveling from out of state, think about combining the Rhode Island and Connecticut shows with an overnight in one town or the other. For info, see ctflowershow.com.

Then comes the Vermont Flower Show Feb. 27 to March 1, one of my favorites. I like that the main landscape display is a collaborative effort, and that the show has many interesting events for children, including a model train display. It is held in the Champlain Valley Exposition Hall in Essex Junction. Tickets are \$15, or \$12 for seniors (age 60) and \$3 for kids 3 to 17. For more



Rhode Island Show. Henry Homeyer photo.

info, go to greenworksvermont.org.

Although Ringling Brothers circus claimed to be the Greatest Show on Earth, the honor should go to the Philadelphia Flower Show, which this year is from Feb. 28 to March 8. Held each year in the Pennsylvania Convention Center, more than 250,000 visitors will walk through the 33 acres of show. Tickets are expensive: \$32 for an adult, \$27 if bought in advance. Even kids are \$17. Still, you gotta see it at least once. Get info at theflowershow.com.

This year I hope to make it to the Portland Flower Show as I've never gotten to it. This year's theme is "A Taste of Spring" and will be March 5 to March 8. Tickets are \$15. More info is at portlandcompany.com.

Boston is another grand event held this year March 11 to 15 at the Seaport World Trade Center. The theme this year is "Season of Enchantment," which will bring out the magic of flowers by top ranked garden designers and floral arrangers from all over New England. Like all the big shows, I recommend going on a weekday, as it can get pretty crowded. Tickets are \$20, or \$17 over age 65.

I called my friend Jill Nooney, who has competed at the Boston Flower Show several times. She said she usually spends about nine months giving birth to her displays — growing the materials needed for them, and putting it all together. And although she has created amazing displays and won blue ribbons, all she really got out of it was bragging rights. So she's not competing this year. Still, if you want to do a display, go to the show, and start your planning now for next year. For more info, see bostonflowershow.com.

After a short break, the next show is the Seacoast Home and Garden Show at the Whittemore Center Arena in Durham on March 28 and 29. This show will have 225 exhibitors showcasing their products and services. Seminars and a "Meet the Chef" program round out the schedule. Tickets are \$8, just \$6 over 65 years of age. Get more info at whittemore.com.

There's not much info yet on the last show, in Bangor — just that it's April 11 and 12 at the Cross Insurance Center in Bangor and the theme this year is "Naturally Nautical." For info later, see bdmainedgardenshow.com

Henry's website is Gardening-Guy.com.



# Stick to it

Keep your New Year's goals going strong

By Joel Bergeron  
listings@hippopress.com



More than a month has passed since many made New Year's resolutions. Something about the new year brings a plethora of feelings for most people. New hope, fresh beginnings, and a

renewed sense of "what can I accomplish?" encourages us to set goals and make changes in our lives for the better.

So now, in the beginning of February, how are those resolutions holding up?

Although our intentions are great and optimism is flowing, these are only the beginning ingredients necessary to accomplish what we set out for. The true challenge lies in developing a new habit and consistently following that pattern until we finally achieve our goal.

There is an old saying: "Failing to plan, is planning to fail." Think about your past jobs — have you ever been part of a work environment where your boss expects you to help your organization grow but hasn't provided you with the necessary plan or tools to facilitate that growth? Fortunately, your personal life need not follow this same course. If you've been feeling stagnant or are just ready to create positive change in your life, then go for it! Here are some steps on how to set a goal and turn it into reality:

**1. Don't be afraid to dream.** What paralyzes most people from accomplishing what they want is the fear of failure. Consider the following mindset: "What's the worst that can happen — you end up right back where you started?" Remember, nothing ventured, nothing gained.

**2. Refrain from setting limits.** It's OK to shoot for the stars, but balance goal-setting with a dash of pragmatism. Is the goal something you can practically accomplish at some point? If it's a large goal, can it be broken into smaller achievements that steadily bring you closer? Jack Lalane used to say he could get anyone to lift a thousand pounds. After a few silent moments of thought, he would follow up by saying, "Lift one pound a thousand times."

**3. Write it down.** Construct a plan and think through each step. Consider what it will take to accomplish each step



and execute your plan. Put that goal in a highly visible place you see everyday to remind yourself of it.

**4. Be consistent.** Keep in mind that Rome wasn't built overnight. You have to work slowly and regularly and sacrifice repeatedly if you want to achieve success. Change rarely occurs in the absence of effort.

**5. Keep the big picture in mind.** It can be easy to become discouraged, especially with big goals or life changes, when you realize just how much work and time it's going to take to reach your destination. Stay positive and remind yourself what you're trying to do, and keep a log of where you started, where you are, and what you're trying to do. This provides a consistent level of accomplishment and positive reinforcement.

**6. Be a little obsessed.** The more you think about, talk about, and visualize each step of your goal, the more of a reality it will become. It's OK to get excited about what you're trying to do, and it's OK to have enthusiasm and positive thinking, no matter how far-fetched that goal might seem to others. Remember that most people don't accomplish what they want because of their attitude, not because of an inability to do so.

*Do you have a question about health and fitness that you'd like answered in The Healthy Hippo? Email Joel Bergeron at [info@nlpstrength.com](mailto:info@nlpstrength.com). Joel is the coaching education chair for USA Track & Field New England and holds a master's degree in sport science.*

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# ON THE JOB

## CHRIS PROULX

### OWNER OF DOUBLE MIDNIGHT COMICS

Double Midnight Comics has been open for nearly 13 years, and with locations on Maple Street in Manchester and South Main Street in Concord, it is a fixture in the local comic community. Double Midnight specializes in comics and tabletop games and puts on the Granite State Comicon each September in the Queen City. Chris Proulx, one of the owners, recently spoke with the Hippo about how his boyhood hobby morphed into the job of his dreams.

**Q: Explain in one sentence what your current job is.**

Head geek at Double Midnight Comics.

**How long have you worked there?**

Coming up on 13 years in the summer. July.

**How did you get interested in this field?**

Well, my brother and I, who are co-owners in the business, we grew up

reading comic books. We had a friend who was also into comic books, and we just had a vision for a fun, friendly atmosphere for shopping for comics and games. We do board games, card games, stuff like that.

**What kind of education or training did you need for this job?**

I don't know if it's necessarily needed. I went to college. I guess for this job you just need to know and be passionate about comics and games. I think when we

opened the store I had been reading comics for a good 20 years. I guess you could say we are all self-taught on the business end of things. We kind of learned on the fly.

**How did you find your current job?**

Well, we created it. We saw the need for it and put together all of our collections and stuff, and went from there.

**What's the best piece of work-related advice anybody's ever given you?**

You know what, that's a tough one. I don't know if I have anything. I think with our industry we have to remember to have fun, have fun with our customers. Treat them the way you would want to be treated, and we've been pretty successful with that.

**What do you wish you'd known at the beginning of your career?**

Probably, for running my own business, just how much work it was going to be. You have an idea, but when you run your own business, there is never really



Chris Proulx. Courtesy photo.

any down time. When you're home you're constantly scheming. We knew it was going to be a big thing, but how big, no clue.

**What is your typical at-work uniform?**

Usually jeans and some kind of comic book-related T-shirt. Usually Batman or Superman, one of those.

**What was the first job you ever had?**

Very first job was working [as a counselor] for the Manchester Boys & Girls Club, their summer camp.

— Joshua Rosenzon

#### Five favorites

**Favorite Book:** *Saga* by Image Comics

**Favorite Movie:** *Back to the Future*

**Favorite Band:** That's kind of hard to nail down one specific, I'd say The Black Keys

**Favorite Food:** Burritos

**Favorite thing about NH:** I'd say the diversity in the landscape. Mountains, sea-coast, nature, woods.

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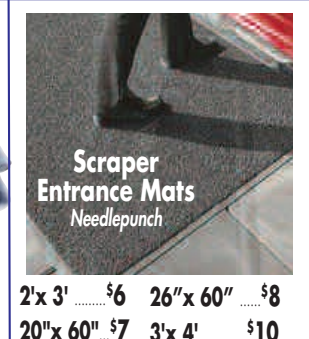
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News from the local food scene

By Emelia Attridge  
food@hippopress.com

# FOOD

## Valentine's Day dinners

Make dining reservations for a special night out

By Emelia Attridge  
food@hippopress.com

If you haven't already made reservations for you and your sweetheart, now's the time to do it. Valentine's Day is Saturday, Feb. 14, and it's one of the busiest days of the year for restaurants. Some are even offering special menus all weekend long.

• **110 Grill** (27 Trafalgar Square, Nashua, 943-7443, 110grill.com) is accepting reservations for dinner all weekend long and serving a four-course prix fixe dinner (\$85 per couple, wine pairing for additional cost), includes shared dishes, like shrimp cocktail, oysters, salad, mini crab cakes and cheesecake.

• **Alan's of Boscawen** (133 N. Main St., 753-6631, alansofboscawen.com) will be serving sweetheart dinners for two (starting at \$19.99), including pastry stuffed chicken breast, prime rib of beef and stuffed lobster tail with filet mignon. Reservations strongly recommended.

• **Alpine Grove** (19 S. Depot Road, Hollis, 882-9051, alpinegrove.com) is offering a buffet. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the menu includes hors d'oeuvres, arugula salad with passion fruit dressing, London broil with mushroom Madeira sauce, chicken medallions Veronique, lemon herb baked haddock, cheddar and scallion duchess potato with white chocolate mousse and chocolate dipped strawberries. Dancing with DJ Chris Brunelle starts at 11 p.m., plus a cash bar. Tickets cost \$30. Reservations required.

• **Angela's Pasta and Cheese Shop** (815 Chestnut St., Manchester, 625-9544, angelaspastaandcheese.com) will prepare a special dinner for two for couples to enjoy at home. The complete dinner includes a choice of three entrees (pork roulade stuffed with prosciutto, caramelized shallots, spinach and herbed cheese with mushroom demi glace, veal Osso Bucco ravioli with rosa cream sauce, or baked stuffed haddock with crab Florentine stuffing with creamed leek sauce), with a choice of a bottle of wine. The deadline to place an order is Tuesday, Feb. 10, for pick-up on Saturday, Feb. 14. Dinner costs \$49.95 or \$54.95 with wine.

• **Bedford Village Inn** (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com) is serving a four-course prix fixe menu from 5 to 9 p.m. (\$75 per person, plus tax and gratuity). Dinner includes choice of appetizer, salad and entree, plus dessert or dessert-for-two option. Reservations are required.

• **Black Forest Cafe** (212 Route 101, Amherst, 672-0500, theblackforestcafe.com) will be serving from its winter menu



all day, plus dinner specials from 5 to 9 p.m. with an array of desserts (specials range from \$8 to \$19). Reservations are strongly recommended.

• **BluAqua** (292 Route 101, Amherst, 673-4321, bluaquanh.com) is serving a five-course prix fixe dinner (\$65). Reservations recommended.

• **Cask & Vine** (1½ E. Broadway, Derry, 965-3454, caskandvine.com) is accepting reservations with seating times at 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

• **Campo Enoteca** (969 Elm St., Manchester, 625-0256, campoenoteca.com) will be serving specials like lobster ravioli with limited reservations available. Advance reservations strongly encouraged.

• **Chateau Restaurant** (201 Hanover St., Manchester, 627-2677, chateauh.com) will feature a dinner theater performance of "A Little Quickie," by Stage One on Friday, Feb. 13, Saturday, Feb. 14, and for a brunch buffet performance on Sunday, Feb. 15. Tickets can be purchased by calling the box office at 669-5511.

• **The Coach Stop Restaurant & Tavern** (176 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 437-2022, coachstopnh.com) will be serving dinner until 10 p.m. from a limited version of its dinner menu. Call ahead seating is available, and reservations may be placed for parties of six or greater.

• **Colby Hill Inn** (33 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com) will be serving from its regular menu with two entree, two appetizer and two dessert specials. Seatings are available from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Reservations are strongly encouraged.

• **Copper Door** (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677, copperdoorrestaurant.com) is accepting reservations and will be serving prix fixe lunch and dinner specials. Guests can select two-course, three-course and four-course dining options for lunch or dinner (lunch costs \$25, \$35, and \$45 per person respectively; dinner costs \$55, \$65,

and \$75 per person, respectively). The menu includes dishes like lobster bisque, slow roasted tenderloin, and Red Velvet cheesecake, among other choices for either meal. View the full lunch and dinner menu online.

• **Cotton** (75 Arms St., Manchester, 622-5488, cottonfood.com) will be offering food and drink specials Friday, Feb. 13, through Sunday, Feb. 15. Reservations strongly encouraged.

• **Country Tavern** (452 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-5871, countrytavern.org) will be serving dinner from a special menu. Reservations are strongly encouraged.

• **Cucina Toscana** (427 Amherst St., Nashua, 821-7356, cucinatoscana.com) is accepting reservations for the weekend, and is offering a special for 15 percent off orders from noon to 4 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 13, through Sunday, Feb. 15.

• **Dancing Lion Chocolate** (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043, dancinglion.us) is accepting reservations for two seatings from 3 to 6 p.m. and from 7 to 10 p.m. The dinner includes a seven-course chocolate-oriented tasting menu in an intimate setting of six tables with live music. Costs \$150 per person.

• **Epoch Restaurant and Bar** (90 Front St., Exeter, 778-3762, epochrestaurant.com) is currently accepting reservations and serving a three-course prix fixe dinner (\$49). The menu includes choice of appetizer (like goat cheese and red beet terrine, butter poached half lobster tail or strawberry gazpacho), entree (bronzed sea scallops, grilled herb-rubbed rack of lamb or pan roasted Atlantic halibut), dessert (meyer lemon and mascarpone tartlet or crispy almond meringue) and complimentary sparkling wine toast.

• **Firefly American Bistro & Bar** (22 Concord St., Manchester, 935-9740, firefly-nh.com) is accepting reservations and will be serving dinner and cocktail specials.

• **Fody's Tavern** (9 Clinton St., Nashua, 577-9015, fodystavern.com) will be serving prix fixe dinners for two (\$59), including

• **Kahuna caters:** Big Kahunas Catering is now located in the Sky View Mall at 380 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack. The catering company offers food services for event planning, from rentals and food delivery to full-service catering, including weddings, events, full-service barbecue and pig roast. Its menu includes appetizers, like stuffed mushroom, mozzarella cheese and tomatoes and stuffed apricots, sandwich and wrap platters, Mediterranean platters, seafood and Mexican food, pork shoulder, chicken satay, holiday catering specials and desserts. Call 494-4975 or visit nhkahuna.com.

• **Sweet victory:** With maple syrup season around the corner, the New Hampshire Maple Producers Association has named the best syrup in the state. Fadden's Maple Sugarhouse of Woodstock takes the trophy for the second year in a row. Curious if your local sugar shack qualified? Check out nhmapleproducers.com. And get ready to visit your local sugarhouse during the 20th annual Maple Weekend on March 28 and March 29.

• **Burger benefit:** The Wild Rover Pub (21 Kosciuszko St., Manchester, 669-7722, wildroverpub.com) is offering a burger special to benefit The Granite YMCA. Bring your appetite — The Granite YMCA Porter Pounder is assembled with a peppercorn-encrusted beef patty, two strips of bacon, deep fried crispy onions, lettuce and tomato with ranch on a toasted bun. With every purchase

44 ▶



choice of appetizer and entree, followed by strawberry shortcake for dessert. Reservations required.

• **Fratello's** (155 Dow St., Manchester, 624-2022, [fratellos.com](http://fratellos.com)) will be serving dinner from a special menu and seating on a first come, first served basis.

• **Gauchos Churrascaria Brazilian Steak House** (62 Lowell St., Manchester, 669-9460, [gauchosbraziliansteakhouse.com](http://gauchosbraziliansteakhouse.com)) will be offering specials all weekend long. On Friday, Feb. 13, live Brazilian jazz will accompany dinner from 6 to 9 p.m., followed by dancing with DJ Moises with a cold and hot buffet at 8 p.m. (or dancing only, starts at 9 p.m.). Saturday, Feb. 14, lunch runs from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., followed by dinner from 2 to 10 p.m. with live Brazilian jazz from 6 to 9 p.m. Gauchos is also offering a \$10 discount for dinner reservations placed between 2 and 4 p.m. Then on Sunday, Feb. 15, brunch will be served from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with live entertainment and complimentary mimosas for ladies.

• **Giorgio's Ristorante & Bar** (524 Nashua St., Milford, 673-3939; 707 Milford Road, Merrimack, 883-7333, [giorgios.com](http://giorgios.com)) will be serving from its regular menu with specials. Reservations strongly recommended.

• **Granite Restaurant and Bar at The Centennial Hotel** (96 Pleasant St., Concord, 227-9005, [graniterestaurant.com](http://graniterestaurant.com)) is offering an overnight package starting at \$259, which includes three-course dinner for two, chocolate covered strawberries and Champagne. Book the package online at [thecentennialhotel.com](http://thecentennialhotel.com).

• **Hanover Street Chophouse** (149 Hanover St., Manchester, 644-2467, [hanoverstreetchophouse.com](http://hanoverstreetchophouse.com)) will be serving specials all weekend, Friday, Feb. 13, through Sunday, Feb. 15. The dinner special on Saturday, Feb. 14, features a four-course prix fixe dinner with live piano entertainment. Dinner costs \$195 per couple. Reservations required.

• **The Homestead Restaurant** (641 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack, 429-2022, [homesteadnh.com](http://homesteadnh.com)) will be serving a limited menu on a first come, first served basis.

• **Hooked Seafood Restaurant and Ignite Bar and Grille** (110 Hanover St., Manchester, 606-1189; 100 Hanover St., 644-0064, [hookedonignite.com](http://hookedonignite.com)) will be accepting reservations starting at 7:30 p.m. and serving romantic dinner specials. Seatings prior to 7:30 p.m. will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

• **LaBelle Winery** (345 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898, [labellewinerynh.com](http://labellewinerynh.com)) is accepting reservations for an evening of dinner and dancing. Tickets cost \$75 for a three-course dinner and dancing with music from a live big band.

• **Mile Away Restaurant** (52 Federal Hill Road, Milford, 673-3904, [mileawayrestaurant.com](http://mileawayrestaurant.com)) will be serving dinner from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Entrees include a choice

of one appetizer, salad and dessert. Fourteen entree specials are available to choose from, including prime rib (\$37), grilled duck breast (\$35), and baked stuffed shrimp (\$33), with ice cream puff, black raspberry meringue ice cream cake, cheesecake with raspberry sauce, peach melba, flourless chocolate cake, lemon mascarpone cake and dark chocolate mousse as choices for dessert. Reservations required.

• **Mint Bistro** (1105 Elm St., Manchester, 625-6468, [mintbistroh.com](http://mintbistroh.com)) is accepting reservations for seatings from 4 to 11 p.m. and will be serving from its regular menu with specials.

• **MT's Local Kitchen & Wine Bar** (212 Main St., Nashua, 595-9334, [mtlocal.com](http://mtlocal.com)) is currently accepting reservations for lunch and dinner.

• **O Steaks and Seafood** (11 S. Main St., Concord, 856-7925, [magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com](http://magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com)) is currently accepting reservations for seatings during its regular dining hours and will be serving from a special dinner menu.

• **Old Europe** (76 N. Main St., Concord, 856-7181, [oldeuropenh.com](http://oldeuropenh.com)) is taking reservations for two seating times, at 5 p.m. and 7:15 p.m., and serving as special three-course prix fixe dinner (cost \$68 per person), including a choice of appetizer (like grape and walnut salad, bruschetta or homemade lentil soup), entree (filet mignon, wild caught nordic salmon or New Zealand lamb kabob) and dessert (a torte amore — light chocolate sponge cake with raspberry infused mascarpone cream and organic raspberry compote — or homemade strawberry cheesecake). Advance reservations strongly encouraged.

• **Pasquale's Ristorante** (143 Raymond Road, Candia, 483-5005, [pasqualeincandia.com](http://pasqualeincandia.com)) will be serving from its regular menu with romantic specials, plus roses, special desserts and complimentary toast of Champagne for couples. Reservations required.

• **Piccola Italia** (815 Elm St., Manchester, 606-5100, [piccolaitalianh.com](http://piccolaitalianh.com)) is serving dinner from 12 to 11 p.m. Reservations encouraged.

• **The Quill** (2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 629-4608, [snhu.edu/restaurant](http://snhu.edu/restaurant)) Southern New Hampshire University's restaurant will be serving a special prix fixe dinner (\$35) as a fundraiser for the Italian culinary immersion trip. Doors open at 5 p.m. and service starts at 6 p.m. Call to place a reservation.

• **Speaker's Corner Bistro at Crowne Plaza Hotel** (2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua, 595-4155, [speakerscornerbistro.com](http://speakerscornerbistro.com)) is accepting reservations for dinner on Friday, Feb. 13, and Saturday, Feb. 14, and will be serving from a special five-course prix fixe menu (\$39 per person, tax and gratuity not included), including a choice of six entrees, with options like coriander crusted Scottish salmon, herb crusted rib-eye steak or 38 ▶

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# IN THE KITCHEN

WITH **DARREN DEE**

Darren Dee is the executive chef and culinary director of 110 Grill (27 Trafalgar Square, Nashua, 943-7443; 116 Chelmsford St., Chelmsford, Mass., 978-256-2777, 110grill.com). He manages the menus and oversees the direction of both 110 Grill locations. Dee has been in the kitchen since he was 12 years old, when he was a dishwasher at his parents' former diner in upstate New York, and he later attended the Culinary Institute of America. One of the reasons he decided to work for 110 Grill was the people, many of whom he'd worked with previously, he said.



**What is your must-have kitchen item?**  
Camaraderie. I think that's the must-have. Everything else is adaptable.

**What would you choose for your last meal?**  
My mother's manicotti. Every Christmas I ask her to make that for me.

**Favorite restaurant besides your own?**  
Sage — it's in the North End of Boston. Tiny little hole-in-the-wall place, phenomenal food, phenomenal wine list.

**What celebrity would you like to see eating at your restaurant?**  
James Brown.

**What is the biggest food trend in New Hampshire right now?**  
Farm-to-table, local, organic, no GMOs,

no modifications, just back-to-basic food and quality and emphasis on primal ingredients, which we've gotten away from the past 20 or 30 years it seems like. That's the big thing.

**What is your favorite meal to cook at home?**

Whenever I'm cooking at home, I like grilling because it's easy, it's healthy and there's minimal clean-up. Last week I did acorn squash stuffed pork chops with a maple syrup glaze. That's always a big hit whenever I make those. I used to make those whenever I'd tailgate.

**What is your favorite dish on your restaurant's menu?**

The [steak] tips are really good. They're phenomenal, they really are.

— *Emelia Attridge*

<p><b>Bourbon marinade</b> <i>Used on 110 Grill steak tips.</i></p> <p>4 ounces bourbon 4 ounces soy sauce 2 ounces mustard, stone-ground</p>	<p>4 ounces sugar, dark brown 2 ounces Worcestershire sauce 2 ounces garlic, chopped 4 ounces blended oil</p> <p>Mix together and marinate protein, like steak tips or chicken.</p>
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◀ 37 shrimp and spinach gnocchi, as well as a dessert for two. Overnight dinner guest packages are available, starting at \$199 per couple.

• **Sunny's Table** (11 Depot St., Concord, 225-8181, sunnystable.com) is currently accepting reservations for its prix fixe dinner.

• **Surf** (207 Main St., Nashua, 595-9293, surfseafood.com) is accepting reservations for any size party and will be serving dinner with specials.

• **Tuscan Kitchen** (67 Main St., Salem, 952-4875, tuscanbrands.com) is taking reservations for private dinners in the wine cellar on Friday, Feb. 13, at 7 p.m. with a multi-course dinner, wine pairings, and wine director Joe Comforti. Tickets cost \$125 per person. On Saturday, Feb. 14, the Tuscan Market will be serving a special multi-course dinner starting at 5 p.m., which costs \$45 per person (wine not included). Reservations are strongly encouraged.

• **Unwine'd** (865 Second St., Manchester, 625-9463, unwined.net) is serving a love bird's four-course prix fixe menu (\$58 per couple) all weekend on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. A combined dinner for two people ideal for sharing includes cheese fondue, A Perfect Match salad, Love at First Bite surf and turf marinated flank steak and garlic sauteed jumbo shrimp, chocolate fondue and chocolate covered strawberries for dessert. Reservations strongly encouraged, walk-in's welcome.

• **XO on Elm** (827 Elm St., Manchester, 560-7998, xoonelm.com) will be serving its regular menu with specials on Saturday, Feb. 14, and Sunday, Feb. 15. Reservations required.

• **Zorvino Vineyards** (226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com) will be serving a five-course dinner on Friday, Feb. 13. Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 p.m., and dinner costs \$65 per person (includes tax and gratuity).

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# bite-sized lessons

## Soups On!

**Hearty vegetable soups with pasta are a favorite in Italian kitchens. The addition of turkey sausage makes this soup a satisfying meal!**

## Italian Soup with Turkey Sausage

Makes 8 (1-cup) servings



### Ingredients:

- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- 8 oz. sweet or hot Italian-style turkey sausage, cut into 1/2-inch thick slices
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 32 oz. reduced sodium chicken broth
- 1 can (15 1/2 oz.) red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 can (14 1/2 oz.) no salt added diced tomatoes, undrained
- 1 Tbsp. McCormick® Perfect Pinch® Italian Seasoning
- 1 bag of Fresh Express® baby spinach
- 1/2 cup uncooked bowtie or elbow pasta

### Directions:

1. Heat oil in large saucepan on medium heat. Add sausage; cook and stir 3 minutes. Add onion; cook and stir 3 minutes longer or until sausage is browned.
2. Pour chicken broth, beans and tomatoes into saucepan and stir in Italian seasoning. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low; simmer 10 minutes.
3. Stir in spinach and pasta. Return to boil on medium-high heat. Reduce heat to low; cover and simmer 10 minutes or until pasta is tender.

*Recipe courtesy of McCormick.com*



## your store dietitians



**Hannah Millon-Garvey, RD, LD**

**Concord Hannaford**  
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Hannah is available  
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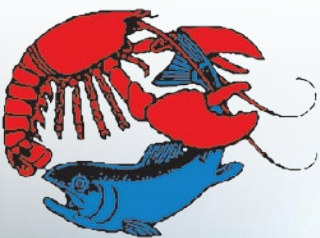
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FOOD

## Mediterranean downtown

Local restaurateur opens specialty market



Nina's Pantry. Courtesy photo.

By Emelia Attridge  
[food@hippopress.com](mailto:food@hippopress.com)

Nina's Pantry, Concord's newest specialty food store, feels like what a Mediterranean pantry might look like. The narrow shop is filled with shelves packed with olive oils, wine, pasta sauces, chocolates and desserts, plus two packed refrigerated cases of cheeses, meats and Mediterranean vegetables. It might seem familiar to Concord foodies — Nina is Nina Mujakovic, co-owner and chef of Old Europe Mediterranean Fine Dining, which is located next door to the pantry.

The store opened just before Christmas.

"I wanted to provide a specialty shop downtown," she said, noting that she's not at all looking to compete with Wellington's Marketplace, which opened last summer across from the Statehouse. "I wanted to fill the gap. That's what it is all about is [having a] choice."

Both the space and many of the recipes come straight from Mujakovic's former restaurant, Bistro Rustica. The bistro was a small sit-in restaurant with about six tables that sold sandwiches, entrees and salads.

### Nina's Pantry International Specialties

**Where:** 80 N. Main St., Concord

**When:** Open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**Call:** 715-5922

**Visit:** Find Nina's Pantry page on Facebook.

Mujakovic and her husband decided to close Bistro Rustica after opening Old Europe.

"Since 2011, basically it's been closed," she said. "I have my following of people coming in and asking [about the bistro]."

That following won't find sandwiches at Nina's Pantry, but there are plenty of other familiar dishes, including grape leaves, sauces, cheeses and soups.

"The idea is grab and go ... [and] still have a good quality meal on a budget," she said. "I'm still adding inventory. ... I just wanted to see what people are looking for."

Customers can stop in and pick up cheeses or prepared dishes, or call ahead to order specials like goulash soup or stuffed peppers. There are also salamis, prosciuttos, cheeses and artisan breads as well as antipasti.

"Most of the meals people know," Mujakovic said.

The grape leaves, made with beef, ground sirloin and rice, are particularly popular.

"They're very legendary," Mujakovic said. "They are really a very special item."

The homemade tomato sauce is too, she said. Mujakovic prepares it herself, another helpful grab-and-go item for anyone who wants homemade taste without all the time it takes to make homemade.

"Instead of three or four hours making sauce, it's 15 minutes until it gets to the table," she said.

Customers can also sample the cheeses, and, Mujakovic said, hear the stories behind the cheese, the region it's from, and the techniques the farmer used to make it.

### Food Fairs/festivals/expos

• **EPSOM CENTRAL SCHOOL SOUP/CHILI/CHOWDER COOK-OFF**  
Cook-off competition. Taste soups, chilis, and chowders and vote for people's choice. Event benefits Epsom Central School.

Wed., Feb. 11, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Epsom Central School gym, 282 Black Hall Road, Epsom. Tickets cost \$6 for adults (includes sample-size cups of 10 soups, chilis, chowders, plus cornbread); \$4 for children ages 10 and under (sample-size cups of 5 soups, chilis, chowders,

plus cornbread). Visit [goo.gl/CRZ2Y7](http://goo.gl/CRZ2Y7).

• **FIRE & ICE FESTIVAL** Winter festival celebrates restaurants, local business and entertainment in downtown Portsmouth. Includes ice bars, fire pits, hearth cooking, dog sled rides, wood fire grilled food, ice sculptures,



# Popovers

I don't know about you, but I seldom buy fresh bread products. I tend to buy loaves of bread or English muffins and have been disappointed lately. For one, look at the ingredients! In order to keep the whole wheat bread that sits on a shelf for weeks (in transit, in my cupboard), it's made with tons of preservatives. Yet the ingredient list for fresh bread is short and simple, and its taste is even better. After buying a French baguette the other day that was made fresh, I chastised myself for not being a better bread consumer. I have bakeries nearby that I could patronize and, good grief, it's actually not that hard to make some bread products myself!

I was gifted a popovers tin for my wedding over seven years ago, and I'm not sure I've ever used it. That changed this week when I made these fluffy snacks. According to Wikipedia, the popover is an American version of Yorkshire pudding. Both are muffin-like except popovers are



much lighter and fluffier and stem from an egg-base. The name "popover" comes from the shape of the top as it "pops" over the ledge of the tin. While Yorkshire pudding tends to be served as a side with stew or meat, the American popover is more versatile.

It can be served as a side, like its English parent, or as more of a dessert when served with cream and berries. They all sound good to me.

Apparently, Neiman Marcus has the best recipe in the U.S. and, at their restaurants (which I didn't even know they had!), they serve these tasty treats with strawberry butter as a pastry. I've tweaked the recipe slightly to make it less dessert-like and more suitable as a side to any meal. Enjoy!

— Allison Willson Dudas

## Cheesy Popovers

- 3½ cups milk
- 4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 6 large eggs, at room temperature
- 5 ounces finely grated cheddar cheese

Sift the flour, salt, and baking powder together into a bowl, set aside. Add the eggs (really make sure they are room temperature!) into a stand mixer fitted with a whisk. Beat on medium speed for about 3 minutes, until foamy. Warm the milk in microwave and slowly

add to the mixing bowl. Add the dry ingredients slowly and beat for about 3 minutes. Let sit for about an hour. Preheat oven to 450 degrees and allow popover pan to heat for about 10 minutes. Add batter to popover pan, greasing the tins to avoid sticking. Fill tins almost to the top and sprinkle with cheese. Place popover pan over a cookie sheet to avoid mess. Bake at 450 for about 15 minutes and then turn the oven to 375, baking an additional 30 minutes. Popovers will rise and brown. Serve hot with soup or whatever floats your boat!

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## FOOD FROM THE PANTRY

Ideas from off the shelf

# Baked chicken

Last week, my future sister-in-law invited my husband and me over for dinner. Normally, I'm the one making dinner and inviting friends and family to our home, so it was not only a nice change of pace, but also a chance to pick up a new recipe.

A few days before dinner, I received an email asking which of two chicken dishes I would prefer for our dinner date. I secretly bemoaned eating chicken again, but responded that either dish looked great, so make whatever was easiest.

When my husband and I walked into his brother's apartment, we were met with the mouth-watering smells of fresh scallions, steamed corn and piping hot rice. But I couldn't smell the main attraction. Fortunately, the lack of aromas coming from the chicken didn't foretell of a lack of flavor. Once the chicken was plated and I dug in, I was instantly impressed.

When my husband went back for seconds, I knew I had to have the recipe. As it turns out, the dish is simple to make with just a few ingredients, but it's packed with flavor. The ingredients are what I usually have on hand in



my pantry and fridge, and the recipe is another way to spice up a boring chicken cutlet.

A blend of cheeses, diced jalapenos, chopped scallions and a spritz of lime juice give this chicken its biggest hits of flavor. The name aptly describes this dish, because the filling for the chicken is like a deconstructed jalapeno popper. When recipes call for cream cheese I always worry the other flavors will fade into the background; in my experience, cream cheese has an uncanny ability to overwhelm other flavors. But the blend of cheeses prevents that from happening. Cheddar jack cuts the richness of the cream cheese with saltiness and adds the gooey, pull-apart cheese irreplaceable in any type of "popper."

Lime juice adds just the right amount of acid, and the bread crumbs add texture and crunch to every bite. The chopped scallions are a fresh and flavorful addition.

The serving size is two pieces of chicken, so not only is this recipe delicious, but also filling. Rice and corn complete this meal easily, and turn this simple recipe into a meal.

— Lauren Mifsud

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## Cheesy jalapeno popper baked chicken

Recipe courtesy of *SkinnyTaste.com*

2 slices center cut bacon, cooked and crumbled (if desired)  
3 jalapeños, chopped  
3 ounces 1/3-less-fat cream cheese, softened  
4 ounces reduced fat shredded cheddar jack  
2 tablespoons chopped scallions  
8 thin-sliced skinless chicken breast cutlets  
1/2 cup Italian seasoned breadcrumbs  
1 1/2 juicy limes, juice of  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
Salt and pepper  
Wash and dry chicken cutlets and season with salt and pepper. Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Lightly spray a baking dish with non-stick spray. Combine cream cheese, cheddar, scallions, jalapeño and bacon crumbles (if desired) in a medium bowl. Spread approximately two tablespoons of cream cheese mixture on each cutlet. Loosely roll each one; secure the ends with toothpicks to prevent the cheese from oozing out. Place breadcrumbs in a bowl; in a second bowl combine olive oil, lime juice, salt and pepper. Dip chicken in lime-oil mixture, then in breadcrumbs and place seam side down on a baking dish. When finished, lightly spray the top of the chicken with oil spray. Bake 22 to 25 minutes, or until juices run clear. Serve immediately.

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# All in the glass

Which ones to use for which wines

By Stefanie Phillips  
food@hippopress.com

Have you ever been at the store or in a restaurant and wondered why one glass was used versus another? Since wine is all about the experience, there are actually glasses that work better for red, white and sparkling. Here is some of the reasoning behind it. While some people think that different wine glasses may only be a sales ploy to get you to purchase multiple sets of wine glasses, others argue that the shape of the glass helps your senses perceive the wine differently. The right glass can bring out aromas and flavors of a particular wine.

One of the most well-known wine glass companies is Riedel, dating back to the 1600s. It was Claus Riedel, a ninth-generation family member, who changed the world of stemware. According to the company website, Riedel "changed stemware from traditional [colored] and cut glass to plain, unadorned, thin blown, long stemmed wine glasses." He was the first to recognize that different shaped wine glasses changed the perception of the alcoholic beverage. Though Claus Riedel passed away in 2004, he has been credited with influencing and changing the appearance of stemware forever.

Today, Riedel offers more than a dozen lines of wine glasses with varietal-specific products. Riedel's glasses are based on the idea that the tongue has a built-in map where it can pick up different flavors, much like we taste foods that are salty, spicy and sweet. Though this hasn't been proved by science per se, wine experts claim that the size and the shape of the "bowl" of the glass can influence the way the mouth perceives the aroma, flavor or mouth-feel (texture) of the wine.

As a side note, some wine experts do not recommend stemless wine glasses because the heat from the hand can change the temperature of the wine, while others say this can actually bring out the flavors. I really like stemless glasses for everyday enjoyment, and they do not spill as easily. I have two sets of Riedel stemless wine glasses in my collection: two for red and two for white. However, no matter which glasses you choose, Riedel or otherwise, there are some basic recommended glass shapes.

## Red wine

Glasses with wider bowls (where the stem meets the part that holds the wine) are typically recommended for red wine, which allows the wine to breathe. Allowing oxygen into the glass softens the tannins and also helps the aromas form.



Red wine is usually served in glasses with wider openings as well. Like the wider bowl, this will allow oxygen into the glass and also allows for more room for your nose to take in the aromas.

## White wine

White wines should be served in a glass with a narrower bowl. Unlike red wines, white wines should have limited exposure to oxygen, which also helps the wine stay cooler longer. White wine is usually best served well chilled.

A narrower glass opening is also recommended for white wine, which helps keep aromas more concentrated. When you smell the white wine, the aromas are easier to detect. Some lighter white wines, like riesling and pinot grigio, should be served in a glass with both a narrow bowl and narrow opening to help preserve their delicate flavors.

Other wines, like sauvignon blanc and chardonnay, can be served in a glass with a larger bowl that is narrower at the opening. The fuller bowl helps aerate the wine and bring out the wine's flavors.

Champagne is served in a glass with a narrower bowl and opening to keep it bubbly and effervescent. Plus, it's just more fun to make a toast and enjoy bubbly in a nice, fancy glass.

If you enjoy drinking and serving wine, do not worry about having glasses for every varietal. One set of white wine glasses and one set of red wine glasses is sufficient; glasses for bubbly might not be necessary unless you drink it often. If you have a little bit of extra money to spend, investing in a higher-quality set of glasses will help them last longer. Vintage Cellars recommends a few tips on its blog when it comes to serving wine.

Only fill glasses to one-third full so the wine can breathe and there is room to swirl it. When washing wine glasses, it is best to use very hot water and a minimal amount of dish soap, which can interfere with taste and leave a film on the glass. If possible, glasses should be washed by hand instead of in the dishwasher to minimize breakage. 🍷

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# DRINK

## RED, WHITE & GREEN

Bottles for the budget-conscious wine-lover

Let's take a two-bottle trip out of this snowy weather for some slightly warmer European locales.

First to France, for the **2012 Marsanne** (\$14.99) from Cave de Tain. According to the winemaker's website (cavedetain.com), marsanne is a dominant white varietal in the northern Rhone Valley. This light straw/light gold-colored wine had a very pretty aroma with notes of honey and flowers. It was a delicate aroma but the wine itself first impressed us with its fullness. Though clean, dry and minerally, this white still had a full flavor (with faint notes of those floral and honey smells, though no sweetness). It paired well with the pasta dish we had that night (creamy rather than tomatoey and with a bit of bacon), standing up to the big flavors of the dish and also serving as a nice balance to the fat.

Now, let's go to Italy for the **2009 Carpineto Chianti Classico Riserva** (currently on sale for just a hair over our normal \$20 limit at \$20.99, regularly priced at \$23.99).



This dark cherry red wine had a lot of cherry happening in its aroma as well. We detected notes of tart and sour cherry with a little oakiness. Though some of that sour cherry carried through in the flavor, this is decidedly a very dry, not at all jammy, wine, with lots of tannins and acid. Big and loud, though not at all in a bad way, this is a wine for your big bold-flavored meals — red sauce and even a little spice.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," the wine-lovers taste red and white wines that sell for not too much of the green, less than \$20. The goal? To find a good bottle without breaking the bank. Unless otherwise noted, the prices listed are what you'll find the bottles selling for at the New Hampshire Wine & Liquor Outlet. 🍷

## Weekly Dish

Continued from page 36

of the burger special, Wild Rover Pub will donate \$1 to the Granite YMCA's Youth Opportunities Unlimited program.

• **Cheesy travels:** Mr. Mac's (497 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 606-1760, mr-macs.com) is launching a 10-week global tour special of macaroni and cheese. The weekly menu starts the first week in February and runs through April 12. Each week features a mac inspired by the cuisine of a different country. It starts off with "The Nottingham," a special mac and cheese inspired by the United Kingdom with aged English cheddar cheeses, tomatoes, creamery butter and toasted breadcrumbs. The rest of the month of February features "Mykonos Mac," a Greek-inspired mac and cheese, "The Parisian," with truffle oil, truffle butter, mushrooms and gruyere cheese, and "The Alpine Mac" for the last week of February, with a recipe inspired by Switzerland that includes Swiss cheese, onions, bacon and potatoes. The 10-week special also includes a passport for diners to taste the

recipes from around the world and enter to win monthly discounts.

• **Keep traveling:** Speaking of global fusion, the Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840, concord-foodcoop.coop) hot bar World Cuisine Tour returns for another year. The tour kicks off on Thursday, Feb. 19, and runs with international specials each Thursday at the hot bar until Thursday, April 16. The menu rotates each week to feature a new country or region with 12 new dishes each week including vegetarian and vegan options. Diners can pick up a co-op passport, collect stamps and enter to win a grand prize raffle. Customers who receive six or more stamps will be entered to win two tickets to the co-op's Farm to Table Appreciation Dinner in August at Canterbury Shaker Village. In addition to the nine-week culinary tour, free wine samples will be offered from 4 to 6 p.m. on select evenings. The wines will be paired with that week's featured cuisine. 🍷

# Mr. Mac's, Bringing the World Together One Mac at a Time!



**Week 2 - February 9th-15th**  
**TRY "MYKONOS MAC"**

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We have taken some liberty and combined the briny, tangy flavors of the Mediterranean region in our Greek inspired macaroni and cheese. We start with fresh mozzarella and feta cheeses then add artichoke hearts, kalamata olives and sun-dried tomatoes.

**Week 3: February 16th-22nd**  
**"The Parisian" from France**

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winter movies and music. Runs Thurs., Feb. 12, through Mon., Feb. 16. Admission prices vary. Visit portsmouthchamber.org for a full schedule of events.

### Chef events/special meals

• **NANA'S NAUGHTY KNICKERS** Majestic Theatre dinner theater performance, includes dinner of roasted vegetable ravi-

oli, tossed salad, fresh hot rolls, chef's choice of starch, vegetable and baked good dessert, freshly-brewed coffee and tea. Cash bar. Fri., Feb. 6, at 6:30 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 7, at 6:30 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 8, at 1 p.m. (Meals served at 7 p.m./1:30 p.m., show starts at 8 p.m./2:30 p.m.). Executive Court Banquet Facility, 1199 S. Mammoth Road, Manchester. \$38 for

Friday and Saturday performances, \$35 on Sunday. Majestictheatre.net.

• **ROYAL TEA PARTY** For children ages 5 and up. Guests are invited to wear "royal finery," enjoy tea, refreshments and crafts. Sat., Feb. 7, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Penacook Branch Library, 3 Merrimack St., Penacook. Free. Call 225-8670.



- Sunshine Riot, *Black Coffee Sigh* **A**
- Enter Shikari, *The Mindsweep* **A**

- *Leaving Time* **B+**
- *Children's Room*
- *Out Next Week*

Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at [ksennott@hippopress.com](mailto:ksennott@hippopress.com). To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to [listings@hippopress.com](mailto:listings@hippopress.com).

- *Project Almanac* **C+**
- *Black or White* **D**

# POP CULTURE

MUSIC, BOOKS, GAMES, COMICS, MOVIES, DVDS, TV AND MORE

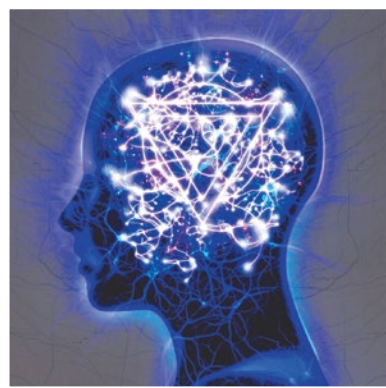
## Sunshine Riot, *Black Coffee Sigh* (self-released)



Second full-length from this Boston band, which has worked hard enough to have earned a producer credit from George Dussault, who's worked on a few records you haven't heard of, unless you've heard of Mark Binder and Joe Parillo (I have, but my brain's an Amazon.com warehouse of worthless information at this point). These local heroes are the latest crew to take on the doomed mission of bringing back rootsy bar-band rock, specifically southern-rock, more or less. In the face of this, the album opens with "Black

Coffee Sigh Side A," a doomy/crunchy thing that makes like a Ministry warmup, but from there it's an amalgam of Hank Williams Jr. quasi-cowboy-punk ("This Is a Raid"), sweetly rendered Allmans nicking ("Better Days"), Doobie Brothers head-drug-pop ("Liz Stone") and blissy but faceless 1970s filler ("Dead Baby Cocaine Blues"). Honestly, I only write about albums like this when they're from decent local artists, not because I expect big-production guitar-rock to overthrow trap-snap diva-bling anytime soon, even if the fantasy is comforting to some. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

## Enter Shikari, *The Mindsweep* (Hopeless Records)



I'm painfully aware of the massive amount of metal I've covered lately, and I swear this is the last week of it, unless the only other choices are bling divas or ad-lib noise-jazz. Regardless, I had to include this one, being that I remembered liking one of their previous LPs, which exhibited a diversity that set these U.K. dudes apart from the usual thrash-metal cannon fodder. The band's fourth full-length finds them comfortably at ease with its ingredients, a unique mishmash of grime-rap, bass-driven Meshuggah-style death-metal, and, well,

screamo, if you must know. What this adds up to is a vision of early-Aughts Linkin Park reborn as a po-faced limeys, with a tightness that would give Pendulum night sweats if they ever had to face them at a metal-palooza. The riffage tends to be patchwork-style, with hip-hop parts suddenly giving way to random black-metal attacks, but there's a definite cohesiveness to it all. "Anaesthetist," with its simple-stupid gangsta chords and triple-time breaks, feels like a genre of its own, transcending the obvious Linkin Park-nicking accusations it'll probably encounter. These guys just get better and better, is what I'm saying. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

## PLAYLIST

*A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases*

• Famous un-closeted soap-opera tin-god **Ricky Martin** has been busy the last decade or so flip-flopping between loving the Democrats and Republicans, but he seems to have settled on Obama for now. He has of course given up on making honky soccer moms swoon at "La Vida Loca" and whatnot, so his new album, *A Quien Quiera Escuchar*, is hopelessly Spanish. This album will be out next week, and the first single is "Disparo al Corazón," a mellow song with banjo, because someone who just woke from a coma in 2010 told him banjos are hot right now.

• **Father John Misty** is, as I'm sure you hipsters know, actually Joshua Tillman, who grew up in a Christian household before doing a lot of mushrooms and deciding to make irritating albums. *I Love You Honeybear* is the new one, featuring the single "Cha-teau Lobby #4 (in C for Two Virgins)," and listening to this song is like hearing John Denver jamming with Calexico at some Grammys show from hell. It's stupid, but if you like it, I can't do anything about it, so let's leave it at that.

• Mohawked punk rocker **Fat Mike** from NOFX releases a concept album called *Home Street Home*. This probably won't be exciting news to theatergoers or straight-edgers, but maybe you'll like it, because it's Fat Mike. I'm too uninterested to go find out what the "concept" is, but I can tell you that the leadoff single, "Seeping Beauty," has mellow piano, like something you'd hear in a musical, but then it gets loud, and the girl singer starts singing all punkish, and then it gets mellow again.

• Speaking of punks and Spanish stuff, **Adolescents** release a new album called *La Vendetta... È Un Piatto Che Va Servito Fredo*. There are some preview links, but they're all fake, so I can't tell you whether or not this punk music is disposable trash, but they are a beloved band in some circles, mainly in Orange County, so what else would you need to know anyway?

• Country chick **Gretchen Peters** has been around for a million years, writing songs for people like Etta James, Trisha Yearwood and George Strait. Her new album, *Blackbirds*, features the song "When All You Got Is A Hammer," a tune that makes me think of Stevie Nicks mooching up to the C&W crowd. At least it's true bluegrass, more or less, not that horrible NASCAR junk.

— *Eric W. Saeger*

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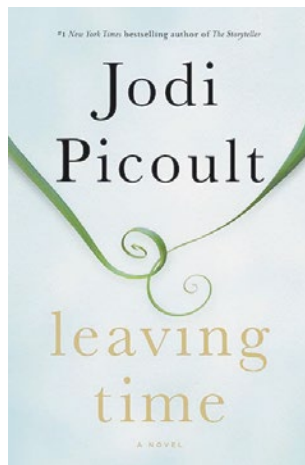
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**Leaving Time**, by Jodi Picoult (Ballantine, 402 pages)

Jodi Picoult's latest is part mystery, part Animal Planet. The book jacket proclaims the New Hampshire novelist to have reached "the height of her powers," a dangerous assertion given the sardonic society we've become. But *Leaving Time* is, indeed, a masterpiece of its genre. It's a deftly woven tale that marries a daughter's search for her AWOL mother with fascinating research on the lives of elephants. Yes, elephants. In reality, of course, there is no New England Elephant Sanctuary in New Hampshire, but after reading this you may think there should be — and that Dumbo was criminally misnamed.

Picoult is an elephant advocate and writes about their plight in her author's note, noting the slaughter of elephants for the illegal ivory trade, including the recent case of 41 elephants that were killed in Zimbabwe when their water source was poisoned with cyanide. The matriarchs of the herd are especially prized, since they're usually the largest and have the heaviest tusks. Those left behind have been proven to grieve — which is why this smart story works. The narrative weaves multiple perspectives — the mother, the daughter, a psychic and a cop — with information about elephant relationships and grief. The result is a page-turner that teaches as it entertains.

Jenna is the daughter, a 13-year-old who lives with her grandmother because her father is institutionalized and her mother is gone. The mother, Alice, is (was?) an ani-



mal scientist who lived with her daughter and husband at the New England Elephant Sanctuary until the day police were called because one of the employees was found dead, the apparent victim of an accidental trampling or attack. Alice was found unconscious at the scene and was taken to the hospital, where she regained consciousness — and then vanished during the night.

Jenna, 3 at the time, was never told more than the bare bones of the story, but as she grew older, so grew her determination to learn what happened — and, if alive, to find her mother. For assistance, she recruits a local psychic, a woman who had once been nationally respected but had lost credibility after a disastrous failed prediction involving an abducted child. The psychic, named Serenity, had said she would never again help with a missing-person case, but when she and Jenna came across Alice's wallet, she relented and agreed to help. So did a retired detective, Virgil, who had once worked the case but had long given up and resigned himself to Alice being his "ghost" — the case that got away, so to speak.

Jenna, Serenity and Virgil take turns telling the story from their perspectives as it unfolds, as does Alice, whose musings are mostly about elephants and vague enough not to reveal where she is (or whether she's alive.)

The elephant stories, Picoult says, are mostly true, anecdotes she gleaned from an actual rescue, The Elephant Sanctuary in Hohenwald, Tenn. They'll warm your heart — and

break it. Picoult writes of elephants who keep watch over bones, who tenderly caress pieces of ivory, who endure electric shocks trying to get to their mothers, who remember humans they haven't seen in decades. In one case, Picoult — as Alice — tells a story of how two elephants, who had been sent to the U.S. after they were orphaned in Africa, were later sent back to Pilanesberg to be matriarchs for a group of orphaned elephants who couldn't function as a herd. Over time, the elephants grew wild, and when one was injured and needed wound care, the team sent for their former U.S. trainer.

"The elephant we called Felicia walked forward, knelt down, and let Randall climb on her back. Although she'd had no direct contact with people in twelve years, she remembered not only this individual man as her trainer, but all the commands he had taught her. Without being given any anesthetic, she allowed Randall to direct her to stay, lift her leg, turn — commands that made it possible for the bush vet to scrape away the pus from the infected area, clean the wound, and give her an injection of antibiotics.... To any researcher, to anyone at all, she was a wild elephant. But somewhere, somehow, she remembered who she used to be, too."

But enough about elephants. Behind the zoology, there is a taut, riveting story here of human attachment and loss, a mother-daughter love story wrapped in a mystery that concludes in a never-saw-it-coming twist. (Don't read ahead.) This is Picoult's 22nd novel, and if Malcolm Gladwell is right and it takes 10,000 hours to achieve mastery of anything, that's a number she's already surpassed. **B+** — Jennifer Graham  
(Jodi Picoult is scheduled to speak at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester; Fri., Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$19.50-\$49.50. Visit [palacetheatre.org](http://palacetheatre.org) or call 668-5588.)

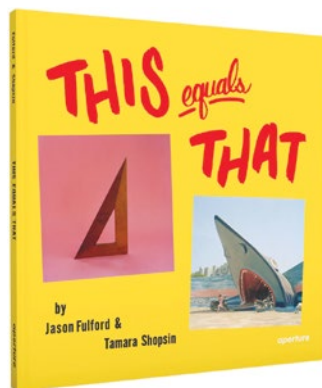
## CHILDREN'S ROOM

*A weekly recommendation from the Concord Public Library*

### This Equals That

by Jason Fulford & Tamara Shopsin, 2014

(Picture book, 5 and up)



The only text in this unusual book is "The book is a circle/Made up of squares/Turn through the pages/Consider the pairs." The rest of the book is photographs — each photograph relating to the next by shape, color, theme or something more abstract. The fun lies in figuring out the relationships — a great exercise of the imagination.

## OUT NEXT WEEK

### A Spool of Blue Thread

By Anne Tyler



Hits shelves: Feb. 10

**Author best known for:** Bestselling novels like *Breathing Lessons* and *Accidental Tourist*

#### One-sentence

**review:** "Now 73, [Tyler] continues to dazzle with this multigenerational saga, which glides back and forth in time with humor and heart and a pragmatic wisdom that comforts and instructs." — *Library Journal*



# Book Report



## • NH Pulp Fiction

**authors:** Elaine Isaak and a group of contributors present Volume IV in the New Hampshire Pulp Fiction series, *Love Free or Die*, at the Toadstool Bookshop, Lorden Plaza, 614 Nashua St., Milford, Saturday, Feb. 7, at 1 p.m. More than 20 writers have created love-themed

stories for the anthology. The goal of the New Hampshire Pulp Fiction series (past books include *Live Free or Undead*; *Live Free or Die! Die! Die!* and *Live Free or Sci-Fi*) is to produce highly readable and enjoyable books and provide a platform for a mix of established writers and new voices. Call 673-1734 or visit toadstool.indiebound.com.

• **Got your ticket?** If there's still space left, snag a ticket to see Jodi Picoult at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Friday, Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. The Hanover-based writer is the bestselling author of 22 novels, including her most recent, *Leaving Time*. Her books have been translated into 34 languages in 35 different countries. Four of them — *The Pact*, *Plain Truth*, *The Tenth Circle* and *Salem Falls* — have been made into TV movies, and one more, *My Sister's Keeper*, hit the big screen. Tickets are \$19.50 to \$49.50; call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org.

• **Book sale love:** The Newmarket Public Library holds its monthly book sale Monday, Feb. 9, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the library basement (1 Elm St., Newmarket, 658-5311). The Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith, 279-4303) holds a Friends of the Library Book Sale on Thursday, Feb. 12, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.; Friday, Feb. 13, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, Feb. 14, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. All sales are by donation, and boxes of books are \$15 each. Last, the Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry, derrypl.org) also holds a sale Saturday, Feb. 14, from 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. — *Kelly Sennott* 🍷

## Books

### Author Events

• **AMY CHUA AND JED RUBENFELD** Author event about New York Times bestseller *The Triple Package: How Three Unlikely Traits Explain the Rise and Fall of Cultural Groups in America*. Thurs., Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. The Music Hall, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth. \$31, which includes reserved seat, copy of book, bar beverage and book signing meet-and-greet. Visit themusichall.org. Call 433-3100, ext. 5013.

• **STEVE HOBBS** Author event to discuss *New Hope*. Thurs., Feb. 5, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Free. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com, 224-0562.

• **JODI PICOULT** Author event. Fri., Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manches-

ter. \$19.50-\$49.50. Visit palacetheatre.org. Call 668-5588.

• **TOM GOYETTE** Meet and greet with local author, magazine editor, singer-songwriter. Sat., Feb. 7, 10 a.m. Goffstown Public Library, 2 High St., Goffstown. Free. Call 497-2102, email sandyw@goffstownlibrary.com.

• **20TH CENTURY PROTEST MUSIC** Kevin Comtois presents a look at three of the greatest protest singers of the 20th century: Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger and Bob Dylan. Comtois is author of *Troubadours & Troublemakers: The Evolution of American Protest Music*. Thurs., Feb. 12, at 7 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Free. Visit nashualibrary.org, call 589-4610.

• **AMY BIANCOLLI** Author of *Figuring Shit Out: Love, Laughter,*

*Suicide and Survival*, presentation. Thurs., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Free. gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **DR. CARLA KAPLAN** Presentation of recent book, *Miss Anne in Harlem: The White Woman of the Back Renaissance* part of library's "Hail to the Harlem Renaissance" series. Thurs., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m. Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst. Free; registration required. Email library@amherstlibrary.org. visit amherstlibrary.org, call 673-2288.

## Lectures & discussions

• **THE PLEASURE OF OUR COMPANY: HARLEM AND THE ORIGINS OF ITS RENAISSANCE** Presentation part of Black History Month series at library, by Professor Dan Breen of Brandeis University. Tues., Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst. Free. Registration required. Call 673-2288, email library@amherstlibrary.org, visit amherstlibrary.org.

• **PEN AND INK: THE ART OF EDITORIAL CARTOONS IN THE AGE OF CHARLIE HEDBO** Presentation featuring Shreyas Navare, Weatherhead Central Fellow and freelance editorial cartoonist for Hindustan Times. Tues., Feb. 17, at 6 p.m. UNH Manchester, 400 Commercial St., Manchester. Free. Visit wacnh.org.

• **"A WOMAN'S TAKE ON COURTLY LOVE: THE LAIS OF MARIE DE FRANCE"** Lecture by NH Humanities Council speaker Cila Goodwin, professor of English Literature and Humanities at UNH. Sun., Feb. 15, at 2 p.m. Tucker Free Library, 31 Western Ave., Henniker. Free. Call 428-3471, visit tuckerfreelibrary.org.

• **"CHARLIE PARKER: THE SHORT LIFE OF A BRILLIANT MUSICIAN"** Lecture presented by Dr. Nathan Jorgensen. Sun., Feb. 15, at 3 p.m. Portsmouth Music and Arts Center, 973 Islington St.. Visit seacoastjazz.org.

• **"THE POETS OF THE HARLEM RENAISSANCE"** Presentation by Dr. Keith Williams, assistant professor of English at Saint Anselm College, part of library series, "Hail to the Harlem Renaissance." Tues., Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst. Free. Visit amherstlibrary.org, email library@amherstlibrary.org, call 673-2288. Registration required.

• **THE HISTORIC ORGANS OF LACONIA LECTURE** Larry Leonard will share his knowledge and experience of the pipe organs in churches of Laconia. Lecture program will follow Laconia Historical and Museum Society annual meeting. Tues., Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. Laconia Public Library, 695 Main St., Laconia. Free. Visit laconiahistorical.org.

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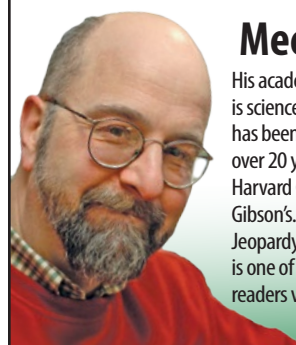
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## NH PULP FICTION GROUP READING

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Saturday, Feb. 7, 1PM

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Contributors will be here reading and signing copies. Details on our website.

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## Leaving Before the Rains Come

by Alexandra Fuller

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A child of the Rhodesian wars and daughter of two deeply complicated parents, Fuller's own marriage leaves her shattered. She finally confronts the tough questions about her past, about the American man she married and about the family she left behind in Africa.

## Etta and Otto and Russell and James

by Emma Hooper

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Eighty-three-year-old Etta will be walking 3,200 kilometers to see the ocean, but her husband Otto understands. He took his own journey once, to fight in a faraway land. With Etta gone, Otto struggles, while their friend Russell pursues the woman he has loved from afar.

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"CONFESSIONS OF A NAZI SPY" (1939)  
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# Banff adventures

Film festival celebrates 20 years in Portsmouth

By Kelly Sennott  
ksennott@hippopress.com

For 20 years, Portsmouth's chapter of the Banff Film Festival has been the Seacoast's ticket for heart-pounding thrills in the middle of winter.

From skiing and slack-line walking to mountain biking and flying (yes, flying — check out this year's *Touch*), viewers can count on Banff's 90-minute transport to magical moments around the globe. This year's adventure starts Tuesday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m., at The Music Hall.

"When you come in, you know you're going to see something that's totally going to fill you with adrenaline," said Lara Willard, event organizer and community relations director with Goodwin Community Health, which puts on the festival every year. "There's Alex Honnold in *Sufferfest 2* — if you're into climbing at all, then you know this guy's name. ... *Tashi and the Monk* takes you to the mountains of Nepal. ... You're going to see wingsuit flying, and this year, we're featuring a female slack-liner."

Films are as short as three minutes, as long as 30. Portsmouth event organizers chose the titles out of a sea selected by the Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival jury. The festival is one of the most prestigious mountain festivals in the world and is held every fall in Banff, Alberta, Canada. Afterward, it stops in about 400 communities in 40 different countries across the globe. The end result, Willard said, is that participants experience all aspects of mountain life.

It's not just action adventure that drives the films. Some have cultural, environmental and emotional themes, Willard said.

"That's what makes it so cool. You have

### Attend the Banff Mountain Film Festival

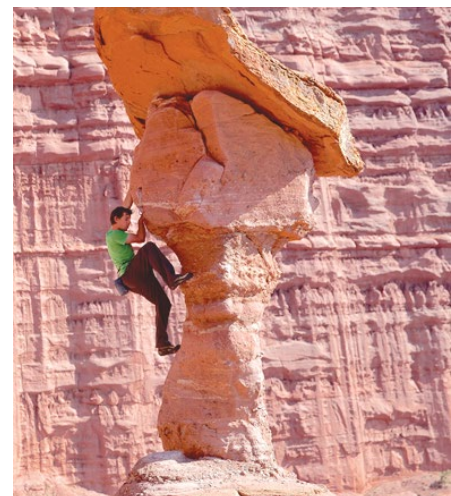
**Where:** The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth

**When:** Tuesday, Feb. 10, at 7 p.m.

**Admission:** Tickets are \$26 at The Music Hall box office and available at 436-2400, themusichall.org (where ticket-buyers will encounter a \$4 additional charge)

**Contact:** banffcentre.ca/mountainfestival/

**Raffle:** Partway through the event, there's an intermission with raffle prizes: jump/raft package for two from Three Rivers Whitewater Rafting and Jump and Raft; a private tour for 10 people at Redhook Brewery/\$25 gift card; two primetime lift tickets to Gunstock; \$25 gift certificate to Isles of Shoals Cruise and all-day riding session for two at Rye Airfield; and a stand-up paddleboard from Portsmouth Kayak Adventures.



From *Sufferfest 2*.

that heart-pumping, adrenaline kind of film, and then it's coupled with something that allows you to see the inner workings of human beings pushing themselves through limits of nature, their hearts, minds and limits of their own physical strength," she said. "The festival is both moving and energizing."

Portsmouth film selections include *Touch*, a flying tour of Santorini, Greece, the Aiguille du Midi above Chamonix, and the Col du Galibier in France; *Wild Woman: Faith Dickey*, about slack-liner Faith Dickey; *Arctic Swell: Surfing the Ends of the Earth*, which showcases cold water surfers; *The Little Things*, about a snowboarder who sells her sled and heads north to learn from her Haida elders; *Danny Macaskill: The Ridge*, about Scottish trails rider Danny Macaskill mountain biking on the infamous Cuillin Ridge; *Tashi and the Monk*, which tells of a Himalayan former Buddhist monk who takes in abandoned children; *Afterglow*, which displays big mountain skiing at night; *And Then We Swam*, in which Brits with little boating experience cross the Indian Ocean; and *Sufferfest 2: Desert Alpine*, which shows Cedar Wright and Alex Honnold riding bikes and climbing desert towers in the American Southwest.

"We've tried different things over the years," Willard said. "We've moved it outside of The Music Hall, but we always come back to our original formula. People really like coming to downtown Portsmouth for this event."

Banff is a fundraiser for Goodwin Community Health.

"Goodwin Community Health is all about making sure there's nobody in the community who doesn't have access to mental, prenatal, dental, behavioral or primary care. We make it affordable," Willard said. "It's our mission and passion — coming to this festival helps to make sure your friends and neighbors who might be laid off or uninsured can still see doctors if they need to."

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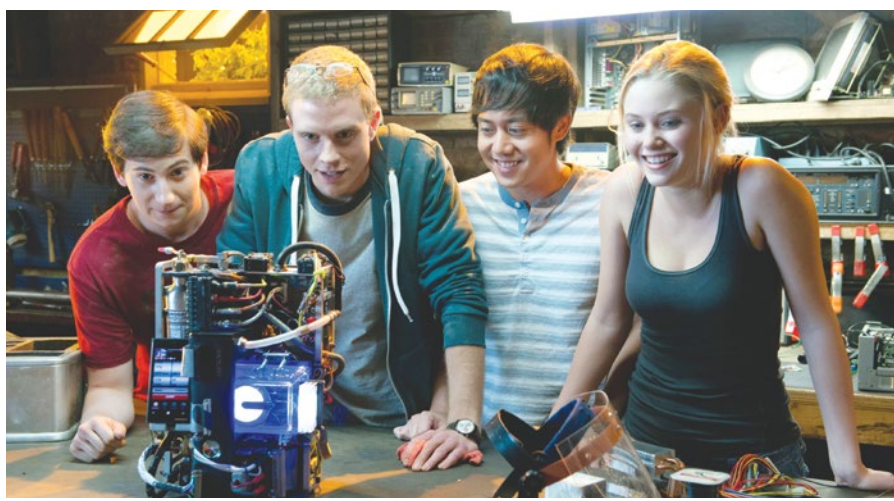
**Project Almanac (PG-13)**

Teenagers find the instructions for and build a time machine in **Project Almanac**, an OK-ish butterfly-effect thriller about the joys of drawing on your one-day-younger self and the sorrows of realizing your fun trip to Lollapalooza caused scores of deaths.

All this just by going back a few days; nobody even got a chance to carry out one of the early stated goals of going back to kill Hitler.

Science-smarty David (Jonny Weston) finds out he has been accepted to MIT (yay!) but then (boo!) finds out he's only being offered \$5,000 in scholarships, not nearly enough to cover the roughly \$56,000 annual price tag (tuition plus room and board) of the school. All bummed-faced, David heads up to the attic where Christina (Virginia Gardner), the seldom-seen slightly younger sister whose shaky-cam is filming everything in this "found footage"-style pic, finds him rummaging around in their late father's stuff. David is hoping that he'll find something that can serve as a project to help him apply for one more scholarship. Instead, they find an old video camera featuring some of the last footage their dad ever shot, a young David's birthday party. Later, David gathers his buddies — Quinn (Sam Lerner) and Adam (Allen Evangelista) — to show them something odd he found on the tape: what appears to be an image of present-day David in the background of little David's party.

Because big David is going to the basement, the gang heads there and finds a time machine David and Christina's father was working on as part of a top-secret military



Project Almanac

project before he died. (Sure, in the basement, behind the box of random mittens and next to the extra house paint — I know that's where I'd keep my top-secret DARPA stuff, along with the jeans I'm saving because they might fit "some day.") Naturally, the kids use the plans to hook the time machine up to a power source and, with the help of a battery from a hybrid car, they are able to go back in time.

Because the car belongs to Jessie (Sofia Black-D'Elia), a popular girl David's been crushing on, she joins the gang in their jumps back — first to a few hours earlier and then back days. To keep from destroying the universe (and to provide a source of conflict later on in the movie), the gang makes up some rules: they always go back together, record everything and they avoid their past selves (an encounter can cause a dangerous feedback loop). At first, the kids have fun — buying a winning lottery ticket to help David pay for college without his mom selling the family

house, helping Quinn redo a chemistry test so as not to fail. But eventually, somebody steps on a butterfly and things in the future-present start to go haywire.

I'm not sure the science, even within the rules of the movie itself, hangs together all that well, but then again sticklers for the laws of physics probably shouldn't go to movies about teenagers who find time machines in their basements. Taken as such, *Project Almanac* is kind of fun. Not "fun" fun, perhaps, but kind of fun, with its "what would you do" bits about the teens using time travel to fix their teenage problems (tests, bullies, kissing the girl at the right moment). "Found footage" as an entertaining story device is probably several films past "all done, thank you" but it isn't too annoying here and mostly works with the way the movie unfolds its secrets.

"Kind of fun" and "not too annoying" are not the high praise that you'll see blurred on a movie poster, but for a movie of this speed

they're enough to recommend it on some lazy day when you're looking for light, low-impact entertainment. **C+**

*Rated PG-13 for some language and sexual content. Directed by Dean Israelite and written by Andrew Deutschman and Jason Pagan, Project Almanac is an hour and 46 minutes long and distributed by Paramount Pictures.*

**Black Or White (PG-13)**

Kevin Costner and Octavia Spencer probably hope you're too busy catching up on year-end releases and Oscar nominees to see **Black Or White**, an ill-formed little drama about a family trying to deal with a bunch of crummy situations.

The crummy situation that starts off the movie: Elliot (Kevin Costner) has just lost his wife Carol (a too-young-for-this-role Jennifer Ehle) in a car accident. Not only is he personally lost in grief, he is now left as the sole caregiver to Eloise (Jillian Estell), the 9-ish-year-old granddaughter they've raised all of her life. Eloise is the daughter of their only daughter, who was 17 years old when she died in childbirth. Eloise's father, Reggie Davis (André Holland), has been an absent drug addict for nearly all of Eloise's life, though his mother, Rowena (Octavia Spencer), has forged enough of a relationship with the girl that Eloise knows her and her extended family of children, grandchildren, nieces and cousins.

Though Rowena and Carol had a good relationship and Rowena felt that Eloise was well cared for, Rowena is now concerned that Elliot won't let Rowena and her half of Eloise's family see Eloise as much and that Elliot won't be the same kind of nurturer that Carol was.

**REVIEWLETS**

\* indicates a movie worth seeing. For reviews of graded films, go to [hippopress.com](http://hippopress.com)

**Opening Soon**

**Feb. 6:** *Jupiter Ascending* (PG-13) The Wachowskis (of *The Matrix* fame) wrote

and directed this tale of an Earth woman (Mila Kunis) who finds out she is alien royalty with help from Channing Tatum; *Seventh Son* (PG-13) Magic and Dark Ages garb mix in this movie starring Julianne Moore; *The SpongeBob*

*Movie: A Sponge Out of Water* features the animated characters taking a trip to the human world.

**Feb. 13:** *Kingsmen: The Secret Service* (R) Colin Firth is a super-spy — for a polite amount of time?;

*Fifty Shades of Grey* (R) The Twilight fanfic turned erotic novel turned bajillion-dollar payday for its author comes to the big screen, just in time for Valentine's Day.

**Now playing:**  
**Annie (PG)**

Quvenzhané Wallis, Jamie Foxx. This cutesy, middling adaptation of the musical moves the action, and many of the songs, out of the 1930s to present-day New York City.

**The Boy Next Door (R)**

Jennifer Lopez, Ryan Guzman. This hilariously terrible thriller about a woman who has a one-night-stand with a young psychopath is exactly what the trailers lead you to believe it is. **C+**

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Black or White

Or something. The movie is a little unclear about what specifically Rowena's worry is and pretty much goes directly to Rowena, with the help of her high-powered lawyer brother Jeremiah (Anthony Mackie), attempting to gain full custody of Eloise. Just because. Also, perhaps because she very misguidedly believes it makes her case stronger, she drags Reggie in to assert his parental rights. Somehow, the crux of the case becomes not the child's best interests, as in every child custody case ever, but something about race and how Elliot's jerkishness will deny Eloise part of her cultural heritage, i.e. access to her black relatives.

Meanwhile, Elliot, who pretty much lives with whiskey glass glued in his hand, is having a hard time with both his grief and Eloise's grief over the loss of Carol. To at least help Eloise with the difficulties she starts to have in school, he hires Duvun Araga (Mpho Koaho), to tutor her, to give her piano lessons and, when the whiskeys make it too illegal for Elliot to function, to serve as Elliot's driver.

*Black Or White* wants, I think, to position itself as a story about how race touches the individual lives of people, or some gooey dramatic nonsense like that. But what it really is is a perplexing story about how a lawyer and his wife apparently never formalized their custodial rights to the granddaughter they were raising and apparently didn't draw up wills that would explain guardianship in the event of one of their deaths. It

is also the strange tale of how, when a concerned grandmother tries to get custody of the granddaughter now being raised by a drunk (a drunk who is drunk enough in the mornings not to be able to drive his granddaughter to school), the grandmother agrees to focus on some mushy idea about the drunk being sort-of a racist instead of focusing on the drunk being a drunk. Also, I question the idea that a super-smart, go-getting, multi-business-owning uber-caretaker like Rowena would seem to care not at all about the possible ill effects on her granddaughter of pulling her away from the only house she's ever known, her school and all her friends at such an emotionally difficult time. And that she would do so by involving a son she's had to shove though life.

In short, far from being some kind of look at race, *Black or White* is a mess of a story that features one-dimensional characters who act in irrational ways — irrational even within the context of the characters themselves.

The result is a movie that basically an embarrassment for all the actors — even Costner and especially the great Spencer — stuck in its mucky mess, reciting terrible, half-baked dialogue. **D**

*Rated PG-13 (on appeal) for brief strong language, thematic material involving drug use and drinking, and for a fight. Written and directed by Mike Binder, Black Or White is two hours and 1 minute long and distributed by Relativity Media.* 🍷



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## MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

### RED RIVER THEATRES

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cord, NH 03301, redriverthe-  
atres.org, 224-4600

• **The Imitation Game** (PG-13,  
2014) Thurs., Feb. 5, at 2, 5:25  
& 8 p.m.; Fri., Feb. 6, at 12:40,  
3:10, 5:40 & 8:10 p.m.; Sat.,  
Feb. 7, at 12:40, 3:10, 5:40 &  
8:10 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 8, at 12:40,  
3:10 & 5:40 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 9,  
at 12, 5:25 & 8 p.m.; Tues., Feb.  
10, at 2, 5:25 & 8 p.m.; Wed.,  
Feb. 11, at 2, 5:25 & 8 p.m.; &  
Thurs., Feb. 12, at 2, 5:25 & 8  
p.m.

• **Whiplash** (R, 2014) Thurs.,  
Feb. 5, at 2:05 & 8:05 p.m.; Fri.,  
Feb. 6, at 1:15, 3:45 & 6:10 p.m.;  
Sat., Feb. 7, at 1:15, 3:45 & 6:10  
p.m.; Sun., Feb. 8, at 1:15 &  
3:45 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 9, at 2:05  
& 5:30 p.m.; Wed., Feb. 11, at  
2:05 & 5:30 p.m.; & Thurs., Feb.  
12, at 2:05 & 5:30 p.m.  
• **Wild** (R, 2014) Thurs., Feb. 5,  
at 5:35 p.m.

• **2015 Oscar-nominated**  
shorts, live action Thurs., Feb.  
5, at 2:10 & 7:15 p.m.; Fri., Feb.  
6, at 3:40 & 7:40 p.m.; Sat., Feb.  
7, at 3:40 & 7:40 p.m.; Sun.,  
Feb. 8, at 5:10 p.m.; Mon., Feb.  
9, at 7:15 p.m.; Wed., Feb. 11, at  
2:10 p.m.; & Thurs., Feb. 12, at  
2:10 & 7:15 p.m.

• **2015 Oscar-nominated**  
shorts, animated Fri., Feb. 6,  
at 2 & 6 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 7, at 2  
& 6 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 9, at 2:10  
& 5:35 p.m.; Tues., Feb. 10, at  
2:10 p.m.; & Thurs., Feb. 12, at  
5:35 p.m.

• **2015 Oscar-nominated**

shorts, documentary Sun., Feb.  
8, at 2 p.m.; & Wed., Feb. 11, at  
5:35 p.m.

• **Foxcatcher** (R, 2014) Fri.,  
Feb. 6, at 8:30 p.m.; Sat., Feb.  
7, at 8:30 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 8, at  
6:10 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 9, at 7:45  
p.m.; Tues., Feb. 10, at 7:45  
p.m.; Wed., Feb. 11, at 7:45  
p.m.; & Thurs., Feb. 12, at 7:45  
p.m.  
• **American Denial** (NR, 2014)  
Tues., Feb. 10, at 6:30 p.m.

### WILTON TOWN HALL

40 Main St., Wilton, NH 03086,  
654-3456, wiltontownhallthe-  
atre.com

• **The Imitation Game** (PG-13,  
2014) Thurs., Feb. 5, through  
Thurs., Feb. 12, at 7:30 p.m.  
Additional screening Sun., Feb.  
8, at 2 p.m.  
• **Six Dance Lessons in Six**  
**Weeks** (2014) Thurs., Feb. 5, at  
7:30 p.m.

• **A Girl Who Walks Home**  
**Alone at Night** (2014) Fri., Feb.  
6, through Thurs., Feb. 12, at  
7:30 p.m. Additional screenings  
Sun., Feb. 8, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.  
• **Confessions of a Nazi Spy**  
(1939) Sat., Feb. 7, at 4:30 p.m.,  
free admission  
• **Grow** (documentary, 2011)  
Sun., Feb. 8, at 4:30 p.m.

### MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, NH  
03104, 624-6550, manchester.  
lib.nh.us  
• **Simon Birch** (PG, 1989) Wed.,  
Feb. 11, at 1 p.m.

### WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, NH  
03102, 624-6560, manchester.  
lib.nh.us

• **Peter Pan Live** (NR) Fri., Feb.  
6, at 3 p.m.

### NEW HAMPSHIRE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

31 College Drive, Sweeney  
Auditorium, Concord, NH  
03301, 271-6484, ext. 4115,  
nhti.edu

• **Champagne for Caesar** (PG-  
13, 1950) Fri., Feb. 6, at 7 p.m.  
Admission by donation.

### NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nash-  
ua, NH 03060, 589-4611, nash-  
ua.library.org.

• **Tangled** (PG, 2010) Sat., Feb.  
7, at 2 p.m.  
• **Va Savior (Who Knows?)**  
(PG-13, 2001) Tues., Feb. 10, at  
7 p.m.

### THE MUSIC HALL

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03801, 436-2400, themusichall.  
org. Some films are screened at  
Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress  
St., Portsmouth, NH 03801

• **Foxcatcher** (R, 2014) Thurs.,  
Feb. 5, at 7 p.m.  
• **Oscar-nominated, Live**  
**Action Shorts** Fri., Feb. 6, at  
7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 7, at 7 p.m.;  
Wed., Feb. 11, at 7 p.m.  
• **Banff Mountain Film Festi-**  
**val** Tues., Feb. 10, at 7 p.m.

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By Michael Witthaus  
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## NITE A new leaf

New singer and album as Flyleaf plays Jewel

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

The SnoCore Winter Music Tour stops at Jewel Nightclub in Manchester on Feb. 7 with Flyleaf headlining, backed by Adelitas Way, Framing Hanley and Fit For Rivals. All are national acts, but the band at the top of the bill is a new one to most fans.

After 10 years with Flyleaf, Lacey Sturm stepped down as lead singer in October 2012, weeks before the release of a just-completed album. The band named Kristen May as her replacement; the former Vadera vocalist immediately dove into learning her new band's music.

Before joining, May knew very little about Flyleaf.

"I saw their posters when I toured with my previous band; I don't know why I never picked up an album," May said in a recent phone interview. "I got to become a fan and join the band simultaneously; it was a really unique experience."

Apart from a live 2013 EP containing one new track, wryly titled *Who We Are*, May spent over a year focused on singing Sturm's songs.

"I was like, OK, it's a good way for me to see how I fit in with the band as far as performing," she said. "But I was excited to write for a new album because that's what I love — writing."

*Between the Stars*, released last September, is the first with May fronting the band; the original members are guitarists Sameer Bhattacharya and Jared Hartmann, bass player Pat Seals and James Culpepper

**SnoCore Tour with Flyleaf, Adelitas Way, Framing Hanley and Fit For Rivals**

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 7, 9 p.m.

**Where:** Jewel Nightclub, 61 Canal St., Manchester

**Tickets:** \$25 at [ticketfly.com](http://ticketfly.com)



Flyleaf. Courtesy of Travis Shinn.

on drums. May contributed several songs to the new disc, including standout tracks "Sober Serenade" and "Well of Lies." But when asked how it feels to put her stamp on the veteran band, she demurs.

"I certainly wanted to put out something that I really loved, because I knew I was going to be singing these songs a while," she said. "But I've tried ever since I joined the band to not compare myself too much with Lacey, to let my songs be my songs. The band really made it easy and comfortable for me to do what I do."

With a soaring soprano, May brings a distinct and different singing style; in that way, she is putting some distance between the new and old editions. But a continuity of spirit remains in the band.

"We wanted to move forward, no matter what has happened in our past," she said. "We wanted to make sure that we are spreading the message of hope and that everybody can have that."

She feels that one track for the new record articulates that feeling.

"'Home' is a very inspirational song, and one that we all relate to," she said. "My band broke up when the guys that I played with for seven years quit, and obviously

Lacey left ... so we had that bond of feeling [like] you have a family [and] a day-to-day routine. You know what to expect, and then all of a sudden it's kind of taken out."

The song was among the first written for the new record.

"It's just about keeping your head up ... it's always going to be OK," said May. "That feeling of being uncomfortable is kind of a good thing. It can really make you grow. You will find a place that feels like home again."

May of Flyleaf's songs contain spiritual references and the open faith of its members has led to a reputation as a Christian band. Upon joining, May received some flak from old fans worried that she wasn't as devout as her predecessor. For example, some were reportedly alarmed by her yoga habit.

May is mostly bemused by the criticism. "Some people are in a box in what they think," she said. "Doing yoga is an aspect in which I find this peacefulness inside myself, and I think that's a little bit different than what other people believe. ... It's funny — you say one thing in an interview, and it can kind of turn into a headline." 🍆

music, Civil War songs, the early labor movement and the Depression, ending mid-20<sup>th</sup> century with the civil rights and anti-war struggles.

Beginning in 1905, the Industrial Workers of the World, or Wobblies, pioneered the use of music to spread politics.

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## Woody, Pete & Bob

Nashua library hosts lecture on protest singers

By Michael Witthaus  
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger and Bob Dylan represent the apogee of socially conscious music, and the three are the focus of a Feb. 12 lecture in Nashua given by Kevin Comtois, author of *Troubadours*

& Troublemakers: *The Evolution of American Protest Music*.

"All protest music is linked, from the early days of our republic to the present day; the centerpiece people are Woody, Pete and Bob," Comtois said in a recent phone interview.

His book begins just before the American Revolution and spans through slave

• **Traveling man:** Part of a quick New England run, **Tom Dixon** appears solo at a local venue he and his band played more than any other before the country performer moved to Nashville. Dixon promises a few songs from his upcoming album along with selections from his days as an area club favorite; Soundtrack to Monday singer Peter Higgins opens. See Tom Dixon on Thursday, Feb. 5, at 8 p.m. at City Sports Grille (Spare Time), 216 Maple St., Manchester. See [tomdixonmusic.com](http://tomdixonmusic.com).

• **Celtic alchemy:** The countdown to St. Patrick's Day is on as multi-instrumentalist **David Surette** joins the **Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio** for an intimate Irish-themed show. Surette is acclaimed for his Celtic fingerstyle guitar playing; Tirrell-Wysocki is a gifted and inventive fiddler. Put the two mutual admirers together and magic is sure to ensue. David Surette and Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio on Friday, Feb. 6, at 8 p.m., Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets \$15 at [ccanh.com](http://ccanh.com).

• **Heart of Saturday:** Local musicians perform at a **Tom Waits Tribute** to raise money for Maggie's Beat, a childhood cancer charity. A long list of talent playing the Rock Hall of Famer's songs includes Hank Osborne, Lauren Hurley, Delanie Pickering, Rachel Vogelzang, Walker Smith, Jasmine Mann, Rippin' E Brakes and comic Paul Landwehr; \$10 donation. Attend Tom Waits Tribute on Saturday, Feb. 7, at 4 p.m. at Shaskeen Pub, 909 Elm St., Manchester. See [on.fb.me/1EAFelF](http://on.fb.me/1EAFelF).

• **Weekly laughs:** A recently launched comedy night hosted by **Woody Wood** and Louie "The Grizzly" Martinez happens every Saturday. It's free, with food and drink specials, and a recent show featured youthful up and comers Nick Robbins, Lady Vain and Miguel Perez. Laughs are followed by late-night music and dancing from DJ Spivak and Sammy Smoove. Attend Comedy Night on Saturday, Feb. 7, at 8 p.m. at Drynk, 20 Old Granite St., Manchester. See [drynknh.com](http://drynknh.com).

• **Sunday sounds:** After going on hiatus last fall, **Bloody Blues Brunch** returns to British Beer Company on Sunday, Feb. 8, at 1 p.m. Alli Beaudry plays at the BBC Manchester location (1071 S. Willow St., 232-0677), while singer Sharon Jones performs at the Portsmouth tap house (103 Hanover St. at Portwalk Place, 501-0515). Upcoming in Manchester are Juke Joint 5 on Feb. 15 and Sharon Jones on Feb. 22. Portsmouth welcomes Boston Baked Blues on Feb. 15 and Double D's on Feb. 22.

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than anyone. Hill, who penned more Wobbly songs than anyone. Hill became the first martyr of protest music, "executed for a murder he did not commit, because of the songs he wrote," writes Comtois.

Art remained dangerous, if not deadly, for those that followed Hill. Guthrie was fired from his first radio job for his politics and lived in poverty partly due to an unwillingness to bend his beliefs toward the marketplace.

"I decided a long time ago that I'd starve to death before I'd sing any such songs as that," Guthrie said at one time.

The House Un-American Activities Committee blacklisted Seeger for his socialist leanings.

It was less perilous by the time Dylan arrived on the scene.

"His songs were more pointed and considerably more radical than anything Joe, Woody or Pete ever wrote or sang," Comtois writes. "But instead of being vilified and blacklisted, he was idolized and revered."

Ironically, Dylan spent little time being the voice of a generation. His second and third album contained several protest songs, but by *Another Side of Bob Dylan* he'd moved on.

"Dylan never wanted to be the leader of anything, except maybe a rock and roll band," said Comtois. "He wanted to be a rock star. He saw that writing these songs would help him get popular ... then he could do what he wanted."

Still, songs like "Masters of War" and "Lonesome Death of Hattie Carroll" endure.

"And how does he still end his concerts?" asked Comtois. "With 'Blowin' in the Wind' or maybe 'Like a Rolling Stone.'"

Dylan's music contained few calls to action. For example, "A Hard Rain's a-Gonna Fall" asks many questions but leaves the answers to the listener.

"That was representative of the new generation," said Comtois. "They didn't like the past and didn't know the future or what they wanted, only that they wanted it all and wanted it now. ... I think Dylan captured that idea: I don't like what you



Kevin Comtois. Courtesy photo.

### Troubadours & Troublemakers: The Evolution of American Protest Music

**When:** Thursday, Feb. 12, 7 p.m.

**Where:** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua

**More:** kevincomtois.com and nashualibrary.org

represent, but I'm not sure what's coming."

For his lecture at the Nashua Public Library, Comtois combines music clips, video footage and photos to connect Guthrie's music to the social and economic conditions of the Great Depression and explore Seeger's long career, including his role in the 1950s folk revival. The talk concludes at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival, where Dylan went electric and shocked the music world. A newly revised edition of *Troubadours & Troublemakers* will also be available at the event.

Comtois likened his efforts to father and son musicologists John and Alan Lomax, who archived folk and indigenous music early in the 20th century.

"I'd like to see more young people active in politics, singing topical songs, that's part of the reason for writing the book and doing the lectures," he said. "I'm doing what they did in the '30s and '40s, bringing the music from generations past."

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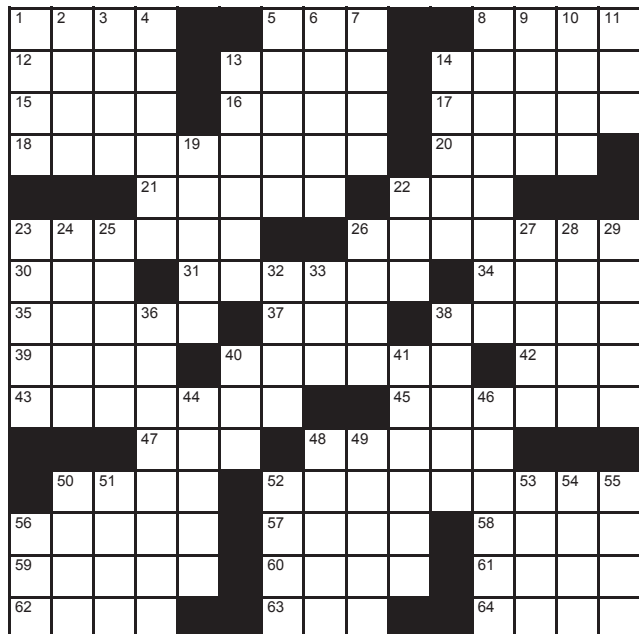


# Puzzle caster

## Across

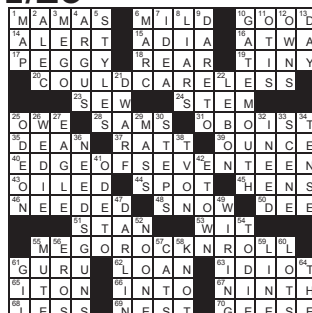
1. Money owed to label
5. '02 Chris Robinson solo album 'New Earth \_\_\_'
8. Dobie Gray 'Drift \_\_\_'
12. OK Go 'Get \_\_\_ It'
13. 30 Seconds To Mars Shannon
14. Beta Band 'Dog's Got \_\_\_' (1,4)
15. Brand New 'Soco Amaretto \_\_\_'

16. Albums want to turn \_\_\_ profit (1,3)
17. Motley Crue '\_\_\_ That Kill'
18. 13th Floor \_\_\_
20. Stray Cats 'Be-Bop-A-\_\_\_'
21. '98 Pearl Jam album 'Live \_\_\_ Legs' (2,3)
22. "You better, you better, you \_\_\_"
23. Jazz guitarist/singer Benson



26. Frontman's "back and forth" order to crowd (3,4)
30. Where Ozzy had a 'Blizzard'
31. '77 Alan Parsons album Will Smith likes? (1,5)
34. 'Hanging \_\_\_ Your Love' Take That
35. Paul Stanley's tattoo (1,4)
37. 60s music genre
38. Pear-shaped cousins of mandolins
39. Toto "Hold the \_\_, love isn't always on time"
40. 'Two Angels And A Dream' rockers
42. David Lee Roth '\_\_\_ 'Em And Smile'
43. \_\_\_ Sally Through The Alley
45. Dire Straits 'Brothers \_\_\_' (2,4)
47. Ramones "Gonna have it all tonight, that ain't no \_\_\_"
48. '09 Florence + The Machine debut album
50. Killers 'My \_\_\_'
52. '82 Michael McDonald hit 'I Keep \_\_\_'

## 1/29



56. Actor/singer Tom of Dukes Of Hazzard
57. Eddie Murphy 'How Could \_\_\_' (2,2)
58. '\_\_\_ Suave' Gerardo
59. Goes with 'Ivory'
60. Paul Stanley has one on his face
61. Silverchair '\_\_\_ Song (Open Fire)'
62. 'Bang On The Drum All Day' Rundgren
63. Stereophonics 'T-Shirt Sun \_\_\_'
64. Eagles 'Life In The Fast \_\_\_'

## Down

1. Stones "I'm on the \_\_, we ain't for hire"
2. Demonic Mercyful Fate song?
3. Tanya Tucker 'It Won't \_\_\_' (2,2)
4. Buggles singer/producer Horn
5. Meat Loaf 'It's All Coming Back To \_\_\_' (2,3)
6. '93 Nirvana album 'In \_\_\_'
7. Stereolab '\_\_\_ And Loops'
8. '03 Three Days Grace hit 'I Hate Everything \_\_\_' (5,3)
9. G Love "Don't you pull the \_\_ over my eyes"
10. 60s teen idol Paul
11. Affirmative Coldplay song?
13. Led Zep 'Early Days And \_\_\_ Days'
14. Stevie Ray Vaughan 'Tin Pan \_\_\_'
19. R&B singer Stone
22. 'Fur And Gold' \_\_\_ For Lashes

23. Band targets, when plotting world domination
24. Kiss 'Destroyer' producer Bob
25. Ace Frehley song about an Earth layer?
26. The Who 'Odds and \_\_\_'
27. Metallica '\_\_\_ Sandman'
28. Ed Sheeran's favorite Mr T show? (1,4)
29. Emcees
32. Prodigy song that foreshadows?
33. Poison 'Unskinny \_\_\_'
36. 'Summer Breeze' \_\_\_ Crofts (5,3)
38. UK 'Protect Your Mind' DJ
40. Yellowcard "\_\_\_ when you live like we do"
41. 'Headed For A Heartbreak' metal band
44. PUSA song about a cat?
46. '68 Van Morrison album '\_\_\_ Weeks'
48. Neko Case 'People Got A \_\_\_ Nerve'
49. Country guy Keith
50. 'Me And You And A Dog Named Boo' guy
51. Music box?
52. Alice Cooper told us to raise it in 87'
53. Ike And \_\_\_ Turner
54. Kiss 'Love Her All \_\_\_' (1,3)
55. Peter Criss put drugs up his
56. Morning Benders '\_\_\_ Cement'



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**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Acoustic Night

**Hampton**  
**Old Salt:** Sev  
**Savory Square:** Chris Hayes  
**Wally's Pub:** Whiskey Wild

**Hanover**  
**Canoe Club:** Joshua Hall

**Hillsborough**  
**Mama McDonough's:** Greenlights  
**Turismo:** Coden

**Laconia**  
**Pitman's:** James Harman Blues  
w/Matt Stubbs and Nick David

**Londonderry**  
**Coach Stop:** Steve Tolley  
**Whippersnappers:** Tigerlily

**Manchester**  
**Central Ale:** DJ Vicious/DJ SP1  
Mother Funkin Fridays  
**City Sports Grille:** Wipt  
**Club 313:** DJ Bob  
**Derryfield:** Radio Star Band  
**Drynk:** DJs Jason Spivak &  
Sammy Smoove  
**Fratello's:** Brian Gray  
**ManchVegas:** Herland Brothers  
**Milly's:** Lyrnuistic Civilians/  
Masta Ace

**Murphy's:** Connption Fits  
**Penuche's:** Tokyo Quickdraw/A  
Future With Jetpacks  
**Raxx:** DJ Mike  
**Shaskeen:** Harsh Armadillo  
**Strange Brew:** Krewede  
Groove  
**Wild Rover:** Colin Axxxwell

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Malcolm Salls  
**Jade Dragon:** Big Ol' Dirty  
Bucket w/ Mother Ton

**Milford**  
**Clark's:** Joel Cage  
**Tiebreakers:** Rich Kumpu

**Nashua**  
**Amsterdam:** Justin Cohn  
**Arena:** Project Mess  
**Country Tavern:** Joe McDonald  
**Fody's:** Ghost Dinner Band  
**Haluwa:** Fatha Groove  
**Riverwalk Cafe:** Agachiko  
**Wicked Twisted:** DJ Music

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Peter Prince and  
Moon Boot Lover w/Gretchen  
and the Pickpockets

**Peterborough**  
**Harlow's:** DJ Luke MF Duke  
and Austin Wright

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid:** Mystery Tramps  
**Demeters:** Pete Peterson  
**Martingale Wharf:** Jim Devlin  
**Portsmouth Gaslight:** Flash-  
back Friday w/DJ KokoP/Rick  
Watson/Brandon Lapere  
**Press Room:** Anthony D'Amato  
w/Michaela Anne  
**Red Door:** Hush Hush w/DYAO  
Party Feat/Ben Clapp/Jacqueline  
Scott; then Patrick Barry  
**Ri Ra:** DJ Fellusse  
**Rud's:** Jeff Auger & Jim Lyden  
**Thirsty Moose:** Rayel

**Raymond**  
**Cork n Keg:** Max Voltage

**Rochester**  
**Radloff's:** Dancing Madly  
Backwards Duo

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop:** EnCircle

**Somersworth**  
**Old Rail Pizza:** The Deviant

**Sunapee**  
**Sunapee Coffeehouse:** Cosy  
Sheridan

#### Saturday, Feb. 7

**Belmont**  
**LR Casino:** Eric Grant Band

**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** Tim & Dave  
**Tandy's:** DJ Iceman Streetz  
**True Brew:** NE Music Awards  
Showcase

**Contoocook**  
**Covered Bridge:** The Mad  
Bavarians

**Derry**  
**Drae:** Don Hamontree

**Dover**  
**Asia:** DJ Shadow Walker  
**Cara:** Club night, DJ Shawwny O  
**Dover Brickhouse:** The Slackers  
**Fury's:** People Skills  
**Sonny's:** Samuel James, Meantone

**Gilford**  
**Patrick's:** Those Guys

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Facedown

**Hampton**  
**Savory Square:** Mel & John  
**Wally's Pub:** Among the Living

**Hanover**  
**Canoe Club:** Bill Rosen

**Henniker**  
**Country Spirit:** Dan Lyons

**Hudson**  
**Capri Pizza:** Michael Spaulding

**Laconia**  
**Pitman's:** Ben Knight

**Londonderry**  
**Coach Stop:** Jeff Mrozek  
**Whippersnappers:** Chad  
LaMarsh Band

**Manchester**  
**British Beer:** Jason Cardinal's  
One Man Show  
**City Sports Grille:** Vital Signs  
**Club 313:** Divas Gone Wild w/  
Mercadies  
**Derryfield:** Soundtrack To  
Monday  
**Fratello's:** Dustin Ladale  
**Jewel:** SnoCore w/ Flyleaf  
**Midnight Rodeo:** Fried Cactus  
**Murphy's:** Jimmy's Down  
N'awlins: Boo Boo Groove  
**Penuche's:** Blanket Party w/  
Esperanto  
**Raxx:** DJ Mike  
**Shaskeen:** Tom Waits Tribute  
(Maggie's Beat Benefit)  
**Strange Brew:** Juke Joint 5  
**Thrifty's Soundstage:** Mindset  
X & Mongrel with special guests  
Among the living & The Tell  
Tale Saints  
**Zaboo:** Groove Alliance

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Lachlan Maclearn

**Milford**  
**Aden China:** DJ Brian  
**J's Tavern:** Arthur James  
**Union Coffee:** Justin Cohn

**Nashua**  
**Amsterdam:** JiveKats  
**Boston Billiard Club:** DJ  
Anthem Throwback  
**Country Tavern:** Johnnie James  
**Fody's:** Soul Income Band  
**Haluwa:** Fatha Groove  
**Riverwalk Cafe:** Deadbeat

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Adam Ezra  
Group

**Plaistow**  
**Racks:** The Irregulars

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid:** Joe Young  
**British Beer:** Spiral Circus  
**Demeters:** Chris O'Neill  
**Fat Belly's:** DJ Provo  
**Martingale Wharf:** Rick Watson  
**Oar House:** Steve Sibulkin  
**Portsmouth Book & Bar:**  
Cornac McCarthy  
**Portsmouth Gaslight:**  
Nightclub w/DJ KokoP/Rick  
Watson/MB Padfield  
**Press Room:** Dub Apocalypse  
**Red Door:** Juan MacLean  
**Rudi's:** Jarrod Steer  
**Thirsty Moose:** Fighting Friday

**Raymond**  
**Cork n Keg:** Dj Jamin Jeff

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**NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK**

**Salem**  
**Barking Bean:** Dave LaCroix

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop:** Tigerlily

**Sunday, Feb. 8**  
**Bedford**  
**Copper Door:** Jeff Mrozek

**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** State Street Combo

**Dover**  
**Cara:** Irish Session w/ Carol  
Coronis & Ramona Connelly  
**Sonny's:** Jared Steer (Jazz)

**Goffstown**  
**Village Trestle:** Blues Jam

**Hanover**  
**Canoe Club:** Cyn Barrette -  
David Westphalen - Fred Haas

**Hillsborough**  
**Mama McDonough's:** Brad  
Bosse

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** Karen  
Grenier

**Manchester**  
**British Beer:** Alli Beaudry  
(Bloody Blues Brunch)  
**Drynk:** Beach Bash w/ Sammy  
Smooove  
**N'awlins Grille:** Rob Wolfe  
Trio  
**Shaskeen:** Rap night, Industry  
night  
**Strange Brew:** One Big Soul -  
Sit Session  
**Zaboo:** Hot Like Fire

**Meredith**  
**Giuseppe's:** Open Stage with  
Lou Porrazzo

**Nashua**  
**Riverwalk Cafe:** Celtic/North  
American Music Session

**Peterborough**  
**Harlow's:** Jam Night w/Great  
Groove Therapy

**Portsmouth**  
**British Beer:** Sharon Jones  
(Bloody Blues Brunch)  
**Press Room:** Shelia Jordan 8p:  
People Like You/Yelloyu\_th/

**Raunchy Randos**  
**Red Door:** Green Lion Crew  
**Rudi's:** Jazz Brunch With Jim  
Dozet

**Rochester**  
**Lilac City Grille:** Brunch  
Music at 9:30am  
**Radloff's:** James McGarvey

**Seabrook**  
**Chop Shop:** Rob Benton

**Monday, Feb. 9**  
**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** State Street Combo

**Hanover**  
**Canoe Club:** Marko The  
Magician

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** Monday's  
Muse - Lisa Guyer w/ guest

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Rob Wolfe  
**N'awlins Grille:** Nate Comp

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Doug Thompson

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Wild Eagle  
Blues Band

**Portsmouth**  
**Red Door:** Duke Mandell and  
JP Brown/James Parkington  
**Ri Ra:** Oran Mor

**Tuesday, Feb. 10**  
**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** Brad Myrick

**Dover**  
**Fury's Publick House:** Tim  
Therault

**Hanover**  
**Canoe Club:** Gillian Joy

**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:** VJ Mark/  
DJ Box

**Manchester**  
**Drynk:** Sammy Smooove & DJ  
Gera  
**Fratello's:** Brad Bosse  
**Milly's:** Manchuka  
**N'awlins Grille:** John  
Chouinard

**Raxx:** DJ Mike  
**Shaskeen:** Brett Wilson  
**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Paul Luff

**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Bluegrass Jam  
w/Dave Talmage

**Peterborough**  
**Harlow's:** Celtic Music Night

**Portsmouth**  
**Blue Mermaid:** Honky Tonk  
Tuesday w/Seldom Playrights  
**Press Room:** The Jazz Jam/  
Hoot

**Sunapee**  
**One Mile West:** Brooks  
Hubbard

**Wednesday, Feb. 11**  
**Concord**  
**Hermanos:** Dave Gerard

**Dover**  
**Fury's Publick House:** Kenny  
Brothers Band  
**Sonny's:** The Gray Davies

**Gilford**  
**Patrick's:** DJ Megan

**Hanover**  
**Canoe Club:** John Lovejoy

**Manchester**  
**Fratello's:** Nate Comp  
**Jade Dragon:** Copacabana  
Salsa Night  
**N'awlins Grille:** Acoustic  
Night  
**Zaboo:** 3 Kings w/ Midas, Liq-  
uid X & Pharoah

**Merrimack**  
**Homestead:** Chris Lester

**Milford**  
**Pasta Loft:** Brad Bosse

**Portsmouth**  
**Red Door:** Red On Red w/  
Evareddy (Ladies Night)  
**Ri Ra:** Great Bay Sailor  
**Rudi's:** Dimitri Solo Piano

**Rochester**  
**Lilac City Grille:** Ladies Night  
Music  
**Radloff's:** Tony Santesse -  
Ladies Night

**COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND**

**Thursday, Feb. 5**  
**Derry**  
**Halligan Tavern:**  
Comedy night

**Hudson**  
**JD Chasers:** Jerry  
Caruso/Dave Decker/  
Dennis Wirth

**Rochester**  
**Radloff's:** Jay Grove  
Match Game

**Friday, Feb. 6**  
**Newmarket**  
**Stone Church:** Tim  
McIntire/Scotty Lom-  
bardo/Bryce Hanson/  
Kenice Mobley/JR  
Huffman/Josh Day

**Saturday, Feb. 7**  
**Concord**  
**Capitol Center:** Dave  
Russo

**Manchester**  
**Drynk:** Saturday Night  
Large w/ Woody Wood  
& Louie Martinez  
**Headliners:** Kyle  
Crawford/Steve Scarfo

**Tuesday, Feb. 10**  
**Concord**  
**Penuche's:** Punchlines  
Open Comedy

**Wednesday, Feb. 11**  
**Londonderry**  
**Whippersnappers:**  
Comedy on Purpose -  
Alana Susko

**Manchester**  
**Murphy's Taproom:**  
Comedy Open Mic  
**Shaskeen:** Emily  
Ruskowski/Mike  
Mulloy



**Bank of New Hampshire Pavilion at Meadowbrook** 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net  
**Capitol Center for the Performing Arts** 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com  
**The Colonial Theatre** 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org  
**Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College** 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana  
**The Flying Monkey** 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com  
**Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom** 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com

**Leddy Center** 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, ledlycenter.org  
**Lowell Boarding House Park** 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., lowellsummermusic.org  
**Lowell Memorial Auditorium** East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com  
**The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center** 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddleh.org  
**The Music Hall** 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org  
**The Old Meeting House**, 1 New Boston Road, Francestown  
**Palace Theatre**, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

**Prescott Park Arts Festival** 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, prescottpark.org, 436-2848  
**Rochester Opera House** 31 Wakefield St., Rochester, 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com  
**Stockbridge Theatre** Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com  
**Tupelo Music Hall** 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com  
**Verizon Wireless Arena** 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, verizonwirelessarena.com  
**Whittemore Center Arena, UNH** 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, whitcenter.com

• **Extreme Guitar Tour** Friday, Feb. 6, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Live's Ed Kowalczyk** Friday, Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey  
 • **Motor Booty Affair** Friday, Feb. 6, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House  
 • **Voice - If Music Be The Food of Love** Friday, Feb. 6, 8 p.m. Silver Center  
 • **Irish Night - David Surette & Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki Trio** Friday, Feb. 6, 8 p.m. Cap Center  
 • **Frank Santos Jr. R-Rate Hypnotist** Saturday, Feb. 7, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre  
 • **Roomful of Blues** Saturday, Feb. 7, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Draw the Line Aerosmith Tribute** Saturday, Feb. 7, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House  
 • **Headliners Comedy - Dave Russo** Saturday, Feb. 7, 8 p.m. Cap Center  
 • **Mr. Nick's Northeast Harmonica Showdown** Sunday, Feb. 8, 8 p.m. Cap Center  
 • **Renee Fleming** Wednesday, Feb. 11, 8 p.m. Music Hall  
 • **Michael Franti POSTPONED** Thursday, Feb. 12, 8 p.m. Music Hall  
 • **Robert Earl Keen/Bonnie Bishop** Friday, Feb. 13, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey

• **Frank Santos Jr. R-Rate Hypnotist** Friday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House  
 • **Artie Januario and Jody Sloane** Friday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Spirit of Mardi Gras with Slippery Sneakers Zydeco Band** Friday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Cap Center  
 • **Pierce the Veil/Sleeping With Sirens** Friday, Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Tsongas Center  
 • **Max Creek** Saturday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **CJ Poole Quintet Valentine Show** Saturday, Feb. 14, 8 p.m. Cap Center  
 • **Living Color** Sunday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Teens Rock Rochester** Sunday, Feb. 15, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House  
 • **Nickelback/Pretty Reckless** Monday, Feb. 16, 8 p.m. Verizon Wireless Arena  
 • **Florida Georgia Line** Wednesday, Feb. 18, 8 p.m. Verizon Wireless Arena  
 • **Cold Engines (Live At Frank's Place)** Wednesday, Feb. 18, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Natalie MacMaster & Donnell Leahy** Thursday, Feb. 19, 8 p.m. Colonial Theatre

• **Jazz w/ David Lockwood and Rik Pfenninger** Thursday, Feb. 19, 8 p.m. Silver Center  
 • **Travis Tritt** Friday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey  
 • **Liz Longley** Friday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m. Silver Center  
 • **Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy** Friday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m. Music Hall  
 • **Entrain** Friday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Arc Iris** Saturday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m. Cap Center  
 • **Sinkane** Saturday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Music Hall Loft  
 • **Ron White** Saturday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Lowell Memorial Auditorium  
 • **Spirit of Johnny Cash** Saturday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House  
 • **Dan Lawson Band** Saturday, Feb. 21, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Tab Benoit** Sunday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Tupelo  
 • **Faculty Tuba Recital w/ Mark Stickney** Sunday, Feb. 22, 8 p.m. Silver Center  
 • **Rick Springfield - Stripped Down** Sunday, Feb. 22, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre  
 • **Gaelic Storm** Friday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey  
 • **Chris Smither** Friday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Tupelo

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**Fri. Feb 6<sup>th</sup> | 7-11pm**  
 Acoustic Open Mic Jam w/ Steve Roberge

**Sat. Feb 7<sup>th</sup> Facedown**

**Sunday Feb 8<sup>th</sup> | 3-7pm**  
 Blues Jam w/ Joe Cunningham

**Sunday Feb 15<sup>th</sup> | 3-7pm**  
 Blues Jam w/ Cheryl Arena

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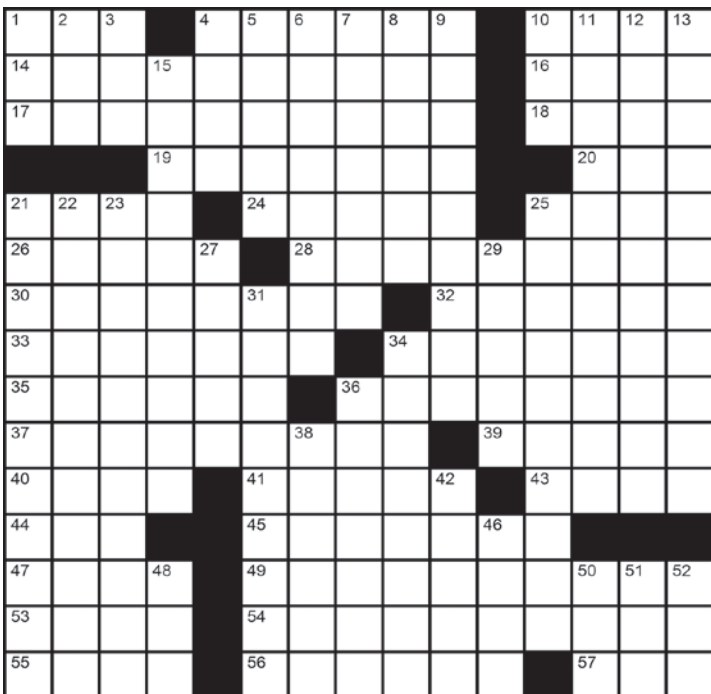
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# Freestylin' — no theme, but big words everywhere

## Across

- 1 Cartoon father of octuplets  
4 Ironie nickname for a hairy guy  
10 Taj Mahal's setting  
14 Slides, handouts, etc. for a speaker's audience  
16 Street \_\_\_\_ (rep)  
17 Aquarium fish  
18 Mecca trekker  
19 "Huuuuuuuh?!"  
20 Little toy, for instance?  
21 Head honcho



- 24 Baseball and football star Sanders  
25 London music producer Yoad \_\_\_\_ (reverses to something in the kitchen)  
26 "Uncle!"  
28 Art lovers  
30 Shield behind a wheel  
32 1994 hit off Live's album "Throwing Copper"  
33 Is uncertain to, in a fancy tone  
34 With "The," 2012 Jessica Biel thriller  
35 "Community" actress \_\_\_\_ Nicole Brown  
36 Share a facility  
37 "Cold as Ice" and "Hot Blooded" group

1/29



- 39 Appeases, as hunger  
40 Having a pH below 7  
41 Heart link  
43 Simple pretzel shapes  
44 It folds in a chair  
45 Place for December purchases  
47 Some small businesses, for short  
49 "Let me at 'em!"  
53 Big earthenware jar  
54 1988 Bruce Hornsby hit, with "The"  
55 "No can do, Dostoyevsky"  
56 "The Two \_\_\_\_" (Martha Finley children's book)  
57 Weightlifter's abbr.

## Down

- 1 Mag that covers blue material (hidden in KAVNER)  
2 Key lime, e.g.  
3 Org. that's hosted Errol Flynn, Wayne Newton and Stephen Colbert  
4 \_\_\_\_ salts  
5 Follow up on \_\_\_\_  
6 Image created before drinking?  
7 Got the carpet all gross  
8 Potatoes named for their state  
9 Must-have  
10 "Oh!" in Osnabruck

- 11 Tiny red salad item  
12 How you feel after a much-needed rest  
13 Quality of some body tissues  
15 Like some GPAs  
21 He's often seen up late  
22 In an ambiguous way  
23 Light and dark ice cream flavor  
25 Star of "Gimme a Break!"  
27 All together, musically  
29 Religious circles?  
31 Rare blood type  
34 Carla's surname on "Cheers"  
36 Total assortment?  
38 "Is this \_\_\_\_?"  
42 French lane  
46 Lord \_\_\_\_ Baratheon ("Game of Thrones" character) (anagram of ROSY)  
48 Posed for pics  
50 Company that merged with Time-Warner  
51 Dollop  
52 NFL gains

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(editor@jonesincrosswords.com)



All quotes are from *A Popular History of Astronomy During the Nineteenth Century*, by Agnes Mary Clerke, born Feb. 10, 1842.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)** [Herschel] studied Italian, Greek, mathematics; Maclaurin's Fluxions served to "unbend his mind"; Smith's Harmonics and Optics and Ferguson's Astronomy were the nightly companions of his pillow. ... He desired not only to know, but to discover: Unbend your mind and let the discovering begin.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)** The discovery that light does not travel instantaneously from point to point, but takes some short time in transmission, was made by Olaus Römer in 1675, through observing that the eclipses of Jupiter's satellites invariably occurred later, when the earth was on the far side, than when it was on the near side of its orbit. Be patient. Even light takes time.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)** It is likely that Saturn is in a still earlier stage of planetary development than Jupiter: He is the lightest for his size of all the planets. In fact, he would float in water: You can be large without being dense.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)** Lastly, Herschel's discovery of Uranus, March 13, 1781, had the surprising effect of utter novelty. Since the human race had become acquainted with the company of the planets, no addition had been made to their number. The event ... seemed to show astronomy as still young and full of unlooked-for possibilities. Your efforts are young and full of possibilities.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 20)** The discovery of Uranus was a mere incident ... a fruit, gathered as it were by the way. It formed, nevertheless, the turning-point in his career: With enough effort, a mere incident will become a turning point.

**Cancer (June 21 – July 22)** From a star-gazing musician he was at once transformed into an eminent astronomer; he was relieved from the drudgery of a toilsome profession,

and installed as Royal Astronomer ... This may be a week of transformation.

**Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22)** By the promulgation of a confident and consistent view regarding the nature of the sun, accordingly, research was encouraged, because it was rendered hopeful, and inquirers were shown a path leading indefinitely onwards where an impassable thicket had before seemed to bar the way. It's not a thicket! It's a path!

**Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)** The aid of Gauss was again invoked, and his prompt calculations showed that this fresh celestial acquaintance (named "Pallas" by Olbers), revolved round the sun at nearly the same mean distance as Ceres.... This result was perplexing in the extreme. You may have to deal with some perplexing data.

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)** But the new physical astronomy ... is, in a special manner, the science of amateurs. It welcomes the most unpretending co-operation. It's amateur hour, in the best possible sense.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)** Few men care to investigate what they are obliged to admit themselves entirely ignorant of; but once started on the road of knowledge, real or supposed, they are eager to pursue it. Your curiosity may be awoken. Work with it.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)** Moreover, the chief arguments in favour of the high temperature of Jupiter, apply, with increased force, to Saturn; so that it may be concluded, without much risk of error, that a large proportion of his bulky globe, 73,000 miles in diameter, is composed of heated vapours, kept in active and agitated circulation by the process of cooling. This is a week for active, if not agitated, circulation.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)** It is a matter of daily experience that two objects situated at different distances seem to a beholder in motion to move relatively to each other. Everything is a matter of perspective.

## NITE SUDOKU

### Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

9				5				3
			8		6			
		6			3	5		
	8	9					6	
5			7		4			1
	3					7	2	
		1	4			9		
			2		9			
6				7				4

Difficulty Level ★★

2/05

## SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

1/29

2	9	7	6	4	3	8	5	1
4	6	8	5	1	9	2	3	7
5	3	1	7	2	8	9	4	6
6	2	5	3	9	1	4	7	8
7	1	4	8	5	2	6	9	3
9	8	3	4	7	6	5	1	2
8	4	2	1	3	5	7	6	9
1	5	6	9	8	7	3	2	4
3	7	9	2	6	4	1	8	5

Difficulty Level ★★★

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## Big-tent mentality

The Project Theater Board at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, Massachusetts, decided in January to cancel its upcoming annual presentation of the feminist classic “Vagina Monologues.” The all-women’s college recently declared it would admit males who lived and “identified” as female (regardless of genitalia), and the basis for cancellation of “Vagina Monologues” was that the unmodifiable script is not “inclusive” of those females that it covers only experiences of females who actually have vaginas.

## No good deed

Kathi Fedden filed a \$30 million wrongful death lawsuit in December against Suffolk County, New York, police after her 29-year-old son, driving drunk in 2013, fatally crashed into an office. She reasons that the son’s death is the fault of the police officer who stopped him earlier that evening and who must have noticed he was already drunk but did not arrest him. The officer, who knew the son as the owner of a popular-with-police local delicatessen, merely gave the son a lift home, but the son later drove off in his mother’s car, in which he had the fatal crash.

## The new normal

The website/smartphone app Airbnb, launched in 2008, connects travelers seeking lodging with individuals offering private facilities at certain prices. About a year ago, entrepreneur Travis Laurendine launched a similar smartphone app, “Airpnp,” to connect people walking around select cities and needing access to a toilet, listing residents who make their utilities available, with description and price. Laurendine told the New York Post in January that New York City is a promising market (though his two best cities are New Orleans and Antwerp, Belgium). The prices vary from free to \$20, and the facilities range from a sweet-smelling room stocked with reading material to a barely maintained toilet (with no lavatory), but, said one supplier, sometimes people “really need to go, and this will have to do.”

## Government in action

Kentucky, one of America’s financially worse-off states, annually spends \$2 million of taxpayer money on salaries and expenses for 41 “jailers” who have no jails to manage. Research by the Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting in January noted that Kentucky’s constitution requires “elected” jailers, notwithstanding that 41 counties have shut down their jails and house detainees elsewhere via contracts with sheriffs. (Though the jailers may be called upon to transport prisoners from time to time, the 41 counties are most-

ly small ones with few detainees.) Several jailers have full-time “side” jobs, and one jail-less jailer employs five deputies while another has 11 part-timers.

A.K. Verma was an “assistant executive engineer” working for India’s central public works department in 1990 with 10 years on the job when he went on leave and had still not returned by the end of 2014, when the government finally fired him. He had submitted numerous requests for extensions during the ensuing 24 years, but all were denied, though no agency or court managed to force him back to work. (India’s bureaucracy is generally acknowledged to be among the most dysfunctional in Asia.)

## Ironies

Timothy DeFoggi, 56, was sentenced in January to 25 years in prison on child pornography charges unable to keep his illicit online transactions hidden from law-enforcement authorities. Before his conviction, he was acting director for cyber security in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and, one would assume (wrongly), an accomplished user of security software.

After a heavy snowstorm in Frankfort, Kentucky (the state capital), in November, with many absences reported, the state labor policy agency (called the Labor Cabinet) was among the agencies needing snow removal at its headquarters more promptly than overworked cleanup crews could provide. A call was circulated for volunteers to go outside and shovel snow, but that job was apparently too laborious for the labor agency; there was only one taker.

The Tampa Bay Times (formerly St. Petersburg Times), reeling financially as many newspapers are, pledged several properties it owns (including its downtown headquarters) to borrow \$30 million last year from a distressed-property lender and now announces an intention to pay back that loan by selling the properties. As reported by the local St. Petersburg website, the sore-thumb loan was almost exactly the amount the Times paid in 2002 for “naming rights” to the Tampa concert-and-hockey venue, the Ice Palace (which became the St. Petersburg Times Forum and is now Amalie Arena). Thus, St. Petersburg wrote, “do the math,” concluding that the Tampa Bay Times was pressured to sell its own headquarters building in order to pay for the 12-year privilege of being able to name someone else’s building.

## Least competent criminals

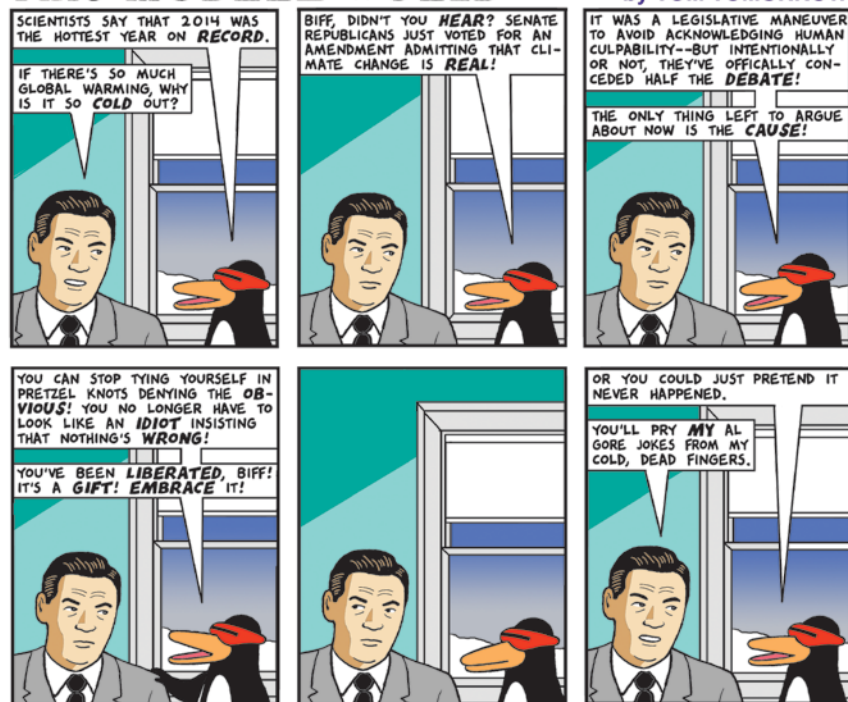
Shane Lindsey, 32, allegedly robbed the Citizens Bank in New Kensington, Pennsylvania, on Jan. 14 and ran off down the street, but was arrested about 15 minutes later a few blocks away, having stopped off at Eazer’s Restaurant and Deli to order chicken and biscuits.

Jeffrey Wood, 19, was arrested in the act of robbing a 7-Eleven in Northeast Washington, D.C., on Jan. 10 because two plainclothes detectives were in the store at the time (though the police badge of one was hanging from a chain around her neck). As soon as the man announced, “This is a stickup,” the detective drew her gun and yelled, “Stop playing. I got 17” (meaning a gun with 17 bullets).

Visit [weirduniverse.net](http://weirduniverse.net).

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by TOM TOMORROW





EST. 2014

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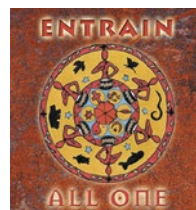
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Fri.,  
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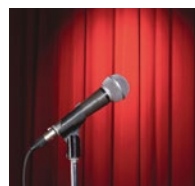


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